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THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH 2016

FAMOUS WELSH BATTLE TO BE COMMEMORATED PAGE 33

Health Beauty & fitness Pages 18-19

WALES RUGBY & FOOTBALL PAGE 40

Happy birthday to you Ma'am!

All Saints Church in Barry enjoyed a wonderful celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday – and the church bells rang out too! For more pictures of the day and a report, turn to page 5.

Barry hoping for 'third time lucky' with Red Arrows

There was disappointment on Barry Island and in the town on Sunday after the Red Arrows were unable to carry out their planned aerial display at midday.

by GEM REPORTER

GEM readers contacted us on Monday morning expressing frustration that the Red Arrows had been unable to perform for a second time – in 2015 there was a late cancellation too.

This year weather conditions were against them – and the hope is they will try again in 2017.

John Buxton of Barry Tourist Railway, who helped to organise the Red Arrows' visit, explained: "We were clearly disappointed that the Red Arrows display had to be cancelled due the the misty rain that enveloped Barry Island around midday.

"The Red Arrows' ground team landed earlier by helicopter and seeing the cloud base dropping, busily tried to replan for a flying display at lower level with a later start, but the cloud came lower than anticipated and the team were booked to do another display over south Devon in the afternoon, so options were limited.

"Also, a time slot has to be booked with Cardiff Airport – the airport has to shut for a display to take place.

"The culmination of all these difficulties eventually resulted in the unfortunate late cancellation.

"Fortunately there was lots to see at the Festival of Transport and our craft fair, so the many people I spoke to going home on our shuttle train service still enjoyed their day out at Barry Island.

"We will persevere and book the Red Arrows again for 2017 – as we can't plan for the weather, let's hope for a third time lucky next year!"

ABOVE: The Red Arrows ground team taking the train back to their helicopter at the Waterfront from Barry Island after the display had been cancelled. Left to right: Donny, the helicopter pilot, Kathryn, of the Barry Tourist Railway, Mike 'Red 10' and Steve, the Red Arrows' aero technician.

IMAGE by MIKE WILCOCK

Rhodri Dafydd Miller Trophy

YSGOL BRO MORGANNWG has inaugurated a new annual award in memory of one of its students – Rhodri Miller.

The Rhodri Dafydd Miller Trophy will be awarded to a pupil who has demonstrated achievement in mathematics, a subject Rhodri was particularly talented in.

The family has thanked the school for agreeing to launch the award.

(For more on this story, please turn to page 12).

HMS Cambria will parade through Barry town centre

THE officers and men of the 'stone frigate' HMS Cambria will parade through Barry on Saturday, June 18.

The right to parade through a town, city or county is now a ceremonial honour to mark trust and dedication between the military unit and the area. HMS Cambria was given the right in 2012.

The ship's company, with the Band of the Royal Marines, will march onto King Square, outside Barry Town Hall from 11.15am.

The company will then parade along Holton Road and to the Vale Council buildings, where the salute will be received by Her Majesty's Vice Lord Lieutenant, Sir Brooke Boothby.

The parade finishes at 12.15pm and members of the public are welcome to attend and line the route.

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Quaker view on the referendum

WE feel that the decision to be made in the EU referendum on June 23 is of crucial importance to Britain and to the whole of Europe and beyond.

We owe it to ourselves and to all those who will be affected to ensure that whatever the result, the campaign and the debate are based on truth and respect and not on misleading information or fear.

The Quaker movement came out of a time of political and social upheaval in Britain in the mid-17th century, when there were deep divisions between people and much mutual suspicion, leading to the scapegoating of particular groups.

The founder of Quakerism, George Fox, came to believe that each of us has a responsibility to make our own choices and decisions, based not on doctrine, but by seeking the truth in the here and now.

Quakers continue to place emphasis on taking individual responsibility for our own behaviour and for working towards communities based on truth, in which peace arises from equality and social justice and a sustainable use of resources is rooted in respect for the natural environment.

Quakers have never had a written creed, but we each try to live our lives in accordance with five key principles of peace, truth, equality, simplicity and respect for the Earth.

We hope that these or similar principles will underpin the discourse and decisions of all the campaigners and voters in the lead-up to the referendum.

Carole Rakodi
Clerk,
Penarth Quaker Meeting.

'Waste strategy is incorrect'

TODAY (June 9) is recycling and general waste collection day on Phyllis Street – the recycling has just been collected, and the street is already a mess.

Throughout most of the year, foot waste collectors clean up the mess left by the initial collections.

This was not the case the previous week, so I hope they will be round this week.

The Vale Council's waste strategy on Barry Island is fundamentally wrong.

There are not enough cleansing personnel or bins (or they are too small) to cater for the additional visitors, that the excellent improvements to the promenade have attracted.

This means that more time is spent on what the council perceive as the "important" area of the Island, and the residential side is being neglected.

Please could the council prioritise the needs of the Island's council tax payers, as without their money, they couldn't afford to clean up after the day trippers.

Initially, could they please send workers to clean up the Phyllis Street/Clive Road area.

Mike Dunn,
Barry Island.

'The past has a lesson to teach'

I AM not a Conservative, nor am I an admirer of David Cameron; however, this warning of war if the European Union breaks up, is not without foundation.

Should we leave the union, the splintering of Europe is almost inevitable. It is only the time frame that remains uncertain.

I barely remember Prime Minister Chamberlain's speech in September 1938, when he said: *"How horrible, fantastic, incredible it is that we should be digging trenches and trying on gas masks here, because of a quarrel in a far-away country (Czechoslovakia), between people of whom we know nothing."*

Today, we know a great deal of the people and the countries of Europe. Indeed, three million Brits live and work there.

I have no wish to see the re-introduction of border controls and fences with their associated work permits and visas.

Already, we have seen the rise of fascist movements within Europe, and closed borders will only exacerbate the growth of such movements. In aviation 'open skies,' a European phenomenon, has brought cheap air fares to millions of British tourists. This could dwindle, to high fares and reduced services with the advent of new bilateral agreements.

Airbus Industry, jointly owned by the French and German governments, would almost certainly move their wing-making factory from Hawarden Airport in north Wales to Toulouse or Hamburg, with a loss of over 100,000 jobs in the UK. Why would they not do so, if we were to leave the EU?

Just like the 1930s, we cannot escape Europe by building a wall around ourselves. Either we band together to help democratise the EU, or we will suffer the consequences of a European nightmare that no borders can keep out.

As a young boy, I saw Europe torn to pieces by war and then unite into the European Union.

Surely we can't be that stupid to ignore the millions of lives lost and all that effort made, to see Europe unravel once more.

"Those who do not learn the lessons of history are doomed to repeat it," G Santayana.

John H Evans,
Cowbridge.

Library plants didn't move by themselves!

ON Friday, June 10, a member of the Llantwit library staff bought plants and put them in the two wooden planters outside the front doors, to brighten up the view.

On the morning of Saturday, June 11, when the staff came to open up the library, all the plants had been removed, new plants installed and soil liberally strewn around the library entrance.

The staff had to sweep up the soil, as this could have been a health and safety hazard.

Nobody knows who carried out this deed and as a regular user of the library, I would like to ask your readers if they can help solve the mystery.

Simon Baelz.

Beware of the election 'gifts'

DESPITE the view from Barry that an election in Rhoose be sidestepped on cost grounds, we now have seven candidates standing, three of whom even live locally.

The label on the tin is local council election, so I would ask voters to ignore any candidate who does not even live in the Rhoose constituency.

Let them stand in their own little parish, where they can experience local issues.

Two of the three remaining candidates represent the two main national parties.

Haven't we had enough of their voting on party lines, that for example has cost us our local library, or at least may do, if the council can defeat the will of the people in the High Court next month.

That leaves one local independent candidate, the main campaigner in Save Rhoose Library and a member of Focus on Rhoose, all undertaken before any talk of a local election – Adam Riley.

Funny how Labour and Conservatives suddenly appear on the scene promoting populist issues when they were nowhere to be seen when the village was being ignored by their party followers on the Vale Council.

Beware of nobodies bearing gifts at election time!

Steve Reed,
Rhoose.

Schools' merger 'wrong move'

I WOULD like to add my name to the strong objections to the Labour-led Vale Council's plans to merge Cadoxton Nursery with Cadoxton Primary school.

I am saddened and shocked to learn that the cabinet has approved the merger, as there is evidence that nursery schools in deprived areas operate better as a stand-alone unit.

It was crucial that they remained as stand-alone units to enable a focus on the children and help parents as the signatures to the 500-strong petition pointed out.

I just wonder how much the decision makers really considered the objections without just saving money on top of their agenda and one must ask whether the Labour-led cabinet already made up its mind? Like many of the objectors, I have to agree in saying that this move in not in the best interests of the nursery school.

All this will really save is the nursery school's headteacher's salary, which is quite small in comparison to the quality and time given to this school.

This is a bad decision and a real let down for the community and I would urge you all to bear this in mind come next year's local elections.

Coun Richard Bertin,
Barry.
(Vale councillor).

WHEN WILL ROAD OPEN?

DOES anyone else feel as I do, that the local authority are treating us local residents with contempt?

I refer to the ongoing work at Harbour Road, Barry.

This 20-week project is now in its 31st week and any progress would seem to be minimal. In the March 31 edition of The GEM, Coun Moore was telling us what a marvellous effort had been made to open the road to two-way traffic for the Easter bank holiday.

That was 11 weeks and two bank holidays ago; could he please advise us when the work will be finished and what the overrun costs are? As rate payers, are we not entitled to know this?

K Ewington,
Barry.

Message is on the label

THIS letter is in response to the 'In or Out' letter in the June 2 issue of The GEM referring to labelling.

I personally am very happy with present day food labels, which gives important information on nutrition and ingredients, such as how many calories, for those on a diet, or how much chicken is actually in chicken nuggets.

There is also very important information about allergies, certain foods which may give reactions in people sensitised to them, such food as nuts (in general but including peanuts), milk, fish, etc.

On the issue referred to in the previous letter, I believe this was missing not only a warning about fish, but also gluten and milk.

The warning label has to be general and unfortunately, this sometimes may appear 'ridiculous and silly', but who decides? If there is an allergen present, it is stated boldly on the label: important as, for instance, Lidl has information in five or more languages.

If the allergen is fish, then it's on the label; do we not include it for herrings because it is obvious? How about fishcakes, or paella? Perhaps we need a committee of Daily Mail readers to decide!

As with so many issues with bureaucracy and the EEC, dare I suggest that a bit less knee-jerk reaction and a little more thought may be in order?

I Robinson,
Rhoose.

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HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL JUNE 23)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
16 Thur	04.17	8.0	16.48	8.2
17 Fri	05.09	8.3	17.34	8.5
18 Sat	05.53	8.6	18.16	8.8
19 Sun	06.34	8.9	18.57	9.1
20 Mon	07.11	9.2	19.33	9.4
21 Tues	07.49	9.2	20.09	9.5
22 Wed	08.28	9.3	20.47	9.5
23 Thur	09.07	9.3	21.24	9.5

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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A VISIT TO THE MAJOR GENERAL'S REVIEW INSPIRES THE AIR CADETS

AIR Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron travelled to London to watch the Trooping the Colour full dress rehearsal for the Queen's birthday parade – the Major-General's review.

Cadets arrived at Horse Guards Parade to watch the Colour of No 7 Company Coldstream Guards being trooped.

The parade was carried out by fully trained and operational troops from the Household Division (Foot Guards and Household Cavalry) and the massed bands.

Trooping the Colour dates back to the early 18th century when the colours, or flags, of the battalion were 'trooped' down the ranks so that they could be seen and recognised by the soldiers.

Several of the cadets are also members of the squadron's own marching band, and found the massed band section to be full of amazing music, and found ideas to improve their own routines.

Cadet Jenna Day said: "It was inspiring to watch the best bands, so that our own band can improve. This has been an amazing day out."

After the parade, the cadets followed the Royal Air Force heritage trail through London, visiting St Clement Danes (the central church of the RAF) the Royal Air Force and Bomber Command memorials, and Battle of Britain monument on the Victoria Embankment as well as a visit to the Imperial War Museum.

372 Squadron welcomes all young men and women between 12 (school year 8) – 17 years old to join. Contact the Squadron on 07486 501864, email oc.372@aircadets.org or visit www.372squadron.org.uk for more information about becoming an air cadet.

Penarth churches gather to celebrate the royal birthday

A TRIUMPHANT evening of celebration took place in All Saints' Church last Wednesday when Penarth Cytûn (Council of Churches) organised an event to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

The church was full with many sitting upstairs in the new gallery for the evening organised by the chair of Penarth Cytûn, Mrs Ann Niblett and her committee. The entertainment for the evening was introduced in a lively and professional fashion by Megan Boot.

Her task was to introduce the four choirs taking part and the poetry reading by Chris Williams.

The talented choirs, which are all based in Penarth, were the Penarth Community Choir, Cavatina and Spectrum.

They all entertained those present with a varied programme of music.

Cavatina and Spectrum performed from the more classical end of the musical sphere with the Penarth Community delighting the audience with a selection of songs from the musicals.

Charm and enthusiasm came from the Albert Road Junior School choir, which was rousingly applauded by the audience for their efforts.

The evening then entered a more formal phase with a Bible reading by the Penarth Town Mayor, Coun Mike Cuddy.

This was followed by prayers for the Queen and all our leaders, and for the needy in our community. These were delivered by former chairmen of Penarth Cytûn, Rev Elfed Jones from St Joseph's and Keith Howells from Stanwell Road Baptist Church. Mrs Heather Ralis then concluded with prayers for ourselves.

The evening continued with exuberant singing of 'Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer', 'God Save Our Gracious Queen' and 'Hen Wlad fy Nhadau'.

The Vicar of All Saints, Canon Peter Cox concluded by giving the blessing and invited all to stay at the conclusion and enjoy soft drinks and to enjoy the sea of brilliantly decorated cakes.

Thanks were expressed to those who had taken part and to those who had planned the event but especially to the makers of those beautiful cakes. This had been an event which was greatly appreciated by the delighted audience.

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Community council hits out
No breast screening units in Dinas Powys

THE failure of Breast Test Wales to arrange for the mobile screening units to visit Dinas Powys has been condemned by Dinas Powys Community Council.

A mobile service has been provided for many years but is no longer available.

Breast Test Wales states that it provides a high-quality breast-screening service to women aged 50 and over throughout Wales.

Breast screening reduces the risk of dying from breast cancer. Women aged 50 to 70 are invited for a breast X-ray every three years.

Screening can find cancers when they are too small to see or feel. Finding and treating cancer early gives you the best chance of survival.

The Community Council has suggested a number of sites for the screening units including the new medical centre and Murchfield Hall car park.

Every alternative site has been rejected by Breast Test Wales.

Richard Grigg on behalf of Plaid Cymru said that this was very regrettable.

He said: "This is an important health initiative. How a public body could buy such a huge vehicle that requires such specific conditions, access and parking facilities is hard to understand.

"Plaid has asked if there are any other alternatives to provide breast testing in Dinas Powys. We also want to know the cost of the vehicle on the road?"

***Dean Phillips, head of programme for Breast Test Wales at Public Health Wales**, said: "The reason for the relocation of the service was due to the size of the new mobile screening units.*

"We have considered alternative locations within the locality of Dinas Powys, none of which was suitable.

"We currently invite women in Dinas Powys to attend the Breast Test Wales Centre in Cathedral Road, Cardiff, a distance of approximately 8.5 miles away.

"The newer mobile units were designed with help from service users and provide a better environment for screening than the older mobiles. In particular, they provide access for wheelchairs which wasn't possible on the old units.

"Breast Test Wales would be more than happy to re look at this issue for the next round of breast screening if a suitable new location becomes available. We will of course keep the issue under review."

New flag

THE 6th Dinas Powys Brownies – a pack of 22 girls – is the proud owner of a new flag.

The flag, bought with fundraising support from the local community council, replaces one that was no longer fit for use.

The outgoing chair, Coun Keith Hatton, said that the council was very keen to encourage youth activities in Dinas Powys.

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Llantrisant Probus Club draws up speakers' list

HAVING had a very enjoyable and informative last quarter with good speakers each month, Llantrisant and District Probus Club numbers continue to grow at the meetings on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30am to 12 noon at the Pontyclun Rugby Club.

Speakers and events booked for the next three months include: July 19, Phil Bowen on the Mary Rose; on August 16, Mrs Jean Harvey on 'Crossing the Green Line'; September 20, by way of a change, it will be the club's annual shove-halfpenny competition.

New faces are always welcome to pay a visit without any obligation to join.

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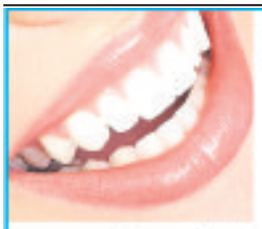
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FOURTH FESTIVAL A TRIUMPH!

ISLAND MARINE – football festival winners.

SATURDAY, June 4, saw the Island Marine FC hold their fourth annual football festival at Barry Comprehensive playing fields.

With more than 600 children from all over south Wales taking part, the day was split in two.

The morning started with the under-6, under-7 and under-11s and included teams from Island Marine, Holton Road, Pontyclun FC, Cardiff Crusaders, Ely Rangers, FC Barry, Inter Penarth, Park Lions, Cogan Coronation, Barry Athletic, Porthkerry Pumas, Canton Rangers, Sully Tiger Sharks and Pentgarn and Trevethin.

The afternoon was made of the under-8, under-9 and under-10 with teams from Island Marine, Park Lions, Ely Rangers, Cogan Coronation, Danescourt, Holton Road, Inter Penarth, Cowbridge Town, Lisvane Panthers, Treharris Athletic, Vale United and New Inn FC.

With the weather just right for football and a large crowd gathered, the teams – across all the age groups – produced some fantastic football played in a fun and enjoyable atmosphere.

As well as the football, there were bouncy castles, fairground attractions and ice cream to keep everyone entertained.

Also, Island Marine FC was selected by McDonald's and the Welsh Football Trust to host a regional community football days, which was a great boost for the club.

The club would like to thank everyone who attended for making it such a success, especially the players who were a credit to all their clubs, and to the following sponsors, without whom the day would not have been possible: 1stChoice 4 Mortgages, KCS Transport Ltd, Autospray, WA Harris Butchers, Think Vans.com, RAS security, Bounce Play Inflatables, Champions Lifting and Safety, M&P Group, JPS Services (South) Ltd and Armstrong Masonry.

Thanks also go to all the volunteers who gave up their time, and to Sian Blackmore and Richard Belby who worked incredibly hard, months in advance, to ensure that the festival ran smoothly.

The final word must go to all the teams, players, coaches and parents who made the day a great success. The club was proud to see so many young players just enjoying playing football.

Well done all – and roll on next year!

Neil Owens, Island Marine FC

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ALL SAINTS BARRY MARKS THE QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY

ALL Saints Church choir provided splendid entertainment to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

The church bells rang out across the town at 2pm on Sunday, June 12, signalling the start of a beautiful afternoon tea. There was plenty to eat and drink too!

This was concluded with a festal choral evensong at which the choir performed the great coronation anthem 'Zadok the Priest'. A great time was had by everyone who attended, young and old.

James Bull (organist and choirmaster)

George Crabb 1925–2016

Decorated wartime flier who became a campaigner for peace

GEORGE CRABB

THE humanist funeral took place in Ramoth Chapel, Cowbridge on Friday, June 3 of George Crabb, a man who won the respect and affection of so many people in Cowbridge and beyond.

He was a gentle, intelligent, well read and visionary man whose conversation remained an inspiration to those privileged to share his company through into his 90s.

He was at different times of his life a classical violinist, a coal miner, a decorated RAF rear gunner, a keen historian, a member of Meibion y Machlud male voice choir and a teacher of children with special needs.

He taught in Craig Y Parc School, Pentyrch and later became head teacher of Erw Delyn School, Penarth.

Although English by birth, he learned Welsh and spoke it fluently as a regular member of the Welsh Conversation Group that meet in The Bear on Friday mornings.

He was best known through south Wales as a dedicated socialist and campaigner for peace.

He would tell, as a member of Bomber Command, that the co-ordinates his plane had been targeting were not those of a factory, as they had been led to believe, but of the densely populated centre of Dresden.

The experience led him to become a lifelong campaigner for the peace movement and CND. Among a host of campaigns, he argued for a memorial to be placed in the Temple of Peace in Cardiff in memory all conscientious objectors.

He met his wife Jeanne at a peace rally and they worked together for peace throughout their marriage.

Before Armistice Day each year, George could be seen about the town selling the 'white poppy of peace' to raise money for the civilian victims of war.

He became a member of the Communist Party when he came to south Wales in the 1950s and remained a fervent socialist throughout his life, decrying capitalism and proclaiming the need for each of us to respect our common humanity.

Jeanne and he retired to Cowbridge were they were both active in local affairs contributing to several books of local history.

In his later years he still travelled and, despite his doctor's worries, visited Cuba in his 90th year and he was by far the oldest member of his tai chi class.

The brief history of The Market Place, which hangs outside the restaurant today, was written by George.

Appropriately, The Bear and The Market Place, both close to his home, did their best to make his own cooker redundant during his last years. GT

RESULTS FROM BARRIVALE

THE recent results from Barrivale Bridge Club (June 7) are as follows:

First, Mark Roderick and Mia Deschepper, 63.49 per cent; second, Huw Thomas and Sean Macdougall, 59.52 per cent; third, Mick Green and Noelle Bond, 58.73 per cent. Huw Thomas and Sean Macdougall won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. Telephone 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. Alternatively, inexperienced or new players may attend on Fridays at 10am. DR

The Barrivale 'pairs winners' were Mark Roderick and Mike Best.

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RIGHT:
This was the scene from Dock View Road on Wednesday, June 8, as a pall of smoke rose from the dock area of the town.
Image courtesy of K Adkins.

Reader captures blaze at docks

"Arcade games are more violent than Punch and Judy"

I have just returned from a lovely weekend in Burnham-on-Sea and watched Punch and Judy on the prom.

Grans and gramps, mums and dads, and children ranging from babies to teenagers, were all clapping, laughing and 'happy'.

You can see more violence on the games in the arcades.

Punch and Judy is 350 years old and has surely stood the test of time.

Wise up, Barry!

Janet L Jones, Barry.

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Vale Council praised for its response to house collapse

THE Vale Council has been praised for its "decisive actions" during the collapse of a residential property in Penarth.

The house, undergoing substantial renovations, began to collapse on Friday, June 10, prompting the attendance of emergency services, utility companies, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Vale Council's building control team, to manage any risk to the public and surrounding properties.

With the rear of the house having collapsed entirely and the roof being unsafe, a demolition was carried out to dismantle dangerous parts of the structure, enabling the site to be made safe.

The HSE have praised the quick and decisive actions of the council's principal building control officer, which led to the safe demolition of the dangerous structure, under the substantial pressure and scrutiny of the national media and concerned residents.

Marcus Goldsworthy, head of regeneration and planning for the Vale Council, said: "It is pleasing to see that our building control team were instrumental in ensuring that the property on Clifton Road was made safe, promptly.

"The decisive actions of the team have removed the immediate concerns of neighbours and residents.

"Most building developments are completed without incident, but when called upon, our officers worked closely with the agencies on site, to minimise the risk to the public."

The HSE is continuing to investigate the circumstances of the collapse.

Rhoose History Society

RHOOSE History Society has another of its popular meetings and this month the speaker is Mr Peter Hatherley and his subject is "The pagan, grotesque and obscene".

The meeting is on Friday, June 24 at 7.30pm at Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose. All are welcome and the entry is just £1 to cover cost of hall hire. **JJ**

Rise and rise of Sully U3A

SULLY U3A recently held its fifth AGM. Jean Bispham, chairman, said membership had continued to grow and is now nearing 400.

She thanked the committee, group leaders and everyone who contributed to its success.

The executive committee was elected and after business was concluded 130 members were entertained to a tea party to mark the Queen's 90th birthday.

The party had a 1920s theme with members dressed as flappers, tea served on three-tier cake stands and a toast with bubbly to the Queen.

Names were put into a hat for one lady to be queen for the day and Pat Wright was the lucky lady who received a bouquet of flowers and commemorative book.

Entertainment was provided by Laura and Joan, two brunettes who perform as 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes'.

They sang a selection of songs from the Queen's nine decades, including favourites by the Andrews Sisters, Doris Day and the Everly Brothers.

Members joined in the songs and some even found room to dance!

Jean thanked everyone who had made the afternoon so enjoyable.

The next meeting will be at 2pm on Thursday, July 14 at The Old School, Sully, when Don Knight will speak on Japanese gardens and the art of bonsai.

New members are welcome at these meetings.

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JAMES ('JIM') GRIFFITHS – *A TRIBUTE*

SPORTING STALWART'S LASTING LEGACY...

by WILL NORMAN

PICTURED RIGHT: *The unveiling of the captains' board in 1989. Jim is on the far right).*

IT'S sad when you lose someone, but that can be a good time to reflect and celebrate what has been achieved.

James Howell (Jim) Griffiths, along with his brothers Glyn, David, Vivian and Hubert Griffiths, all served on the Llantwit Major Rugby Club committee, or played for the club. Jim also played rugby for Neath Athletic RFC and Glamorgan Wanderers RFC and was committed to the promotion of rugby football in Llantwit Major.

As a player (wing/centre) during the 1956-7 season, he was top try scorer with 15 tries from 29 appearance, a good achievement by any player!

Jim put his heart and soul into any task given him at the Llantwit club, and was well respected, not only by members, but also over a wide area.

Former players have warmly testified to Jim's positive influence over them when they played rugby for the town.

A former Welsh Guardsman, Jim carried the colours, not once, but twice at Trooping the Colour at Horse Guards Parade, a record at the time!

Jim showcased his excellent organisational skills during the Llantwit club's centenary year (1989) with functions arranged, and supported in great numbers by former players and club members from far and wide!

A keen historian, Jim arranged for the captains' board to be written and displayed in Llantwit Major Rugby Club.

As part of Jim's legacy to the club, all former and current players now wish to see their names written on this historical club asset!

Jim was responsible for the formation of the mini and junior rugby section during the 1980s. This milestone event has become the backbone of the club and many players have come through this system, which is still thriving today.

Jim's numerous contributions to Llantwit Major Rugby Club helped to cement the club in the strong position it's in today.

Members and friends salute one of their stalwarts and thank him for his many years of wonderful club service, and the legacy which he has given us.

RIP James Howell Griffiths.

The GEM joins in sending his wife Mair and all the Griffiths family, sincere condolences in their sad loss.

• *Key roles carried out by Jim at Llantwit Major Rugby Club:*

Player (1955-57), general committee (1959), club reporter (1963), fixture secretary (1969-79), Life Member (1979-80), rugby committee (1980-81), assistant chairman (1982-83), chairman (1983-84), president (1989-96), trustee (1975-2010).

Brave mum of five Catherine pleads for adult learning funds

SINGLE mum of five, Catherine Watkins, from Rhoose an Inspire award winner has called for a greater emphasis on adult learning opportunities as Adult Learners' Week celebrated 25 years.

The annual campaign celebrates learning achievements and provides outreach activities to encourage others to 'give it a go'.

One learner who has benefited from developments in adult learning is Catherine Watkins from Rhoose. Catherine has been battling cancer on top of a number of other illnesses while studying for two degrees.

She left school after completing one year of A-levels to become a swimming instructor, feeling she had limited opportunities as she couldn't afford further education. When the Open University began to offer grants, Catherine began her training to become a nurse. Sadly, she was forced to quit after she was diagnosed with cancer.

Catherine was undeterred by her illness, however, and went back to study in 2009 and is still in education today.

Catherine said: "I wanted to understand why certain people behave the way they do and so I choose to study psychology as the best way to get that understanding. Studying played a fundamental role in my recovery, it was my motivation.

CATHERINE WATKINS.

"Afterwards, I decided to help children with learning difficulties and so I set up a club which now helps 130 kids and is a registered charity. It became apparent to me that if the parents of these children also became interested in education, the outcomes for the children were better.

"We decided to engage parents and provide support in adult learning courses to suit their needs with the help of Vale Life Long Learning, DAP and The Open University."

Catherine is continuing to learn despite her ongoing treatment: "I take classes in everything. I am obsessed with learning. I do everything from practical things like first aid to computing and things more related to my training like behaviour management."

In 2012 she was honoured for her determination to learn in the face of adversity at the Inspire! Adult Learning Awards, a ceremony recognising the outstanding effort and commitment made by individuals, businesses and communities to develop their learning and skills.

Catherine continued: "I think that in the last 13 years I've been involved in adult learning it has become much more normalised. It's not unusual for mature students to be in education. In 2003 for example this was very different, I was 28 and almost everyone else was a lot younger.

"In the next 25 years I would like to see more changes made to funding. People living on the poverty line still don't have opportunities or accessibility. Especially post graduate degree level. For example, I am unable to fund a Master's programme and I feel it is in part related to inequalities towards disabled people."

Recognition for the Barry Community Garden in volunteers' week

BARRY Community Garden, managed by Newydd Housing Association, held an open day on Friday, June 10 to celebrate the hard work and dedication of its volunteers.

The event was held to mark Volunteers' Week, an annual campaign which recognises the contribution volunteers make to local communities every day.

Visitors could take a look around the garden and enjoy some fresh produce.

Volunteers were presented with certificates for transforming the garden over the past three years from a disused parcel of grassland into a place for the community to enjoy.

Morgan Dickens, a volunteer at the garden, said: "I love helping out. I've been helping at the garden for over a year doing lots of things, from digging, to watering to helping build the pond."

Peter Smith, who also helps out at the garden, said: "I have been volunteering at the garden for over a year and I absolutely love it. I do various things such as strimming the grass, digging, looking after the pond and building sheds.

"Rain or shine, I'm always down here helping out!"

Lisa Williams, the garden's manager, said: "It was lovely to see so many of our volunteers at the open day to receive their certificates.

"It's always a pleasure to show our appreciation for all the time and hard work they put in to keep this amazing, and worthwhile, project going."

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EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE FOR 'MARIE CURIE' IN COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN

Photographs by MIKE WILCOCK

MARIE CURIE provides support for people living with terminal illnesses – and fundraising for the cause is vital.

In Cowbridge last Friday a well attended garden party took place in the nationally famous Physic Garden.

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Dinas Powys Women's Institute gets to the heart of the matter

DINAS POWYS WI held a free coffee morning on June 11 to give villagers an opportunity to see a defibrillator and to question Robin Petterson, from the Welsh Ambulance Trust, on how it is used and exactly what it does.

It is hoped to purchase the defibrillators through the British Heart Foundation (BHF) and a stall with the charity's items was manned by the Barry BHF fundraising group.

The WI also welcomed Jane Hutt, the AM for the Vale, to the coffee morning. Dinas Powys WI has raised funds to donate two or three defibrillators to the village to commemorate the centenary of the WI.

The WI held a very successful coffee morning in November 2015 and a fashion show in April 2016 and has raised over £3,000 to purchase the 'public access' defibrillators and the heated boxes to house them for the village.

The community council and the Rotary Club have made substantial donations to the fund and there have been one or two personal donations made as well.

It is hoped to have the defibrillators in place later this year.

LWH

Send your reports to The GEM. Email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Celebration and challenge with official opening of the Senedd

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Finance)

LAST week, we were fortunate to welcome to the Senedd the Queen, who formally opened the fifth National Assembly for Wales on Tuesday, June 7 during the week of her official 90th birthday celebrations.

Her understanding and commitment to the progress and impact of devolution in Wales was clear in her words to the 60 Assembly Members in the Chamber – only nine of whom (including myself) were present at the first opening in 1999.

She spoke of the way we had embraced our new law-making powers in the fourth Assembly and of the new powers and responsibilities to come, as the new Wales Bill was also published on the day of our opening last week.

The First Minister Carwyn Jones AM responded with a clear commitment from a Labour-led Welsh Government that we will 'work together' in the fifth Assembly for the good of Wales, to ensure we continue to keep faith with the electorate and deliver a programme of Government, including legislation commensurate with our responsibilities and our agreement with Plaid Cymru.

One of the key tenets of our agreement was to work together in support of the campaign to remain in the European Union with the referendum on June 23. Cross-party 'working together' was clear in the debate this week, promoted by Baroness Eluned Morgan (newly elected AM for Mid and West Wales and former member of the European Parliament), supported by Lord Dafydd Elis Thomas AM and David Melding AM.

In another newspaper last week an editorial was appropriately headlined, 'Passion and reason as we go to vote' and I am sure we can all agree that this is the prevailing atmosphere of this very unsettling referendum campaign.

So much is at stake for Wales, the UK and our future generations.

I have been asked for facts as well as opinions by constituents and have been very pleased to share these as widely as possible. Europe Day on May 9 provided that opportunity and to highlight information about the ways in which EU funds have helped us in the Vale.

So it is important to share the fact that 750 people in the Vale have benefited from an EU-funded apprenticeship and over 400 young people on our 16-25 year olds Jobs Growth Wales Scheme were also funded by the European Union Social Fund.

Over 2,845 qualifications have been achieved thanks to EU funding for our workplaces and colleges, providing vital skills for the Welsh economy.

The restoration of Barry Town Hall and King Square was funded with the help of £845,000 from the EU and the renovation of the Barry YMCA Hub included £1.1m of EU funds. The new platform on Barry town station benefited from EU funding.

Businesses have been created in the Vale with EU funds (370 between 2002-13) and basic payments have been made to 185 farm businesses in 2015/16. The Superfast Broadband Cymru programme is also backed by EU funding.

I am supporting a number of projects which have received funds from the EU Rural Development Fund refurbishing village halls, creating community allotments – Treoes and Dinas Powys are good examples – and more bids are being considered for the next phase, including Ogmore by Sea Village Hall Association.

European funding has also helped fund vital flood alleviation schemes across the Vale.

These are facts to share with you but also there are queries to answer. I hope it will be helpful for people to know that Wales received £4.17 billion from the European Union in 2007-13 and for 2014-2020 we are due to receive £4.9 billion, including payments to farming businesses.

There is clearly a great deal of passion too as well as further headlines to ponder. I have often quoted Rt Rev Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Wales and Canterbury in my GEM columns and I am happy to do so again, as he writes with leaders of other faith communities to say:

"The past 70 years have been the longest period of peace in Europe's history. Institutions that enable us to work together and understand both our differences and what we share in common contribute to our increased security and sense of collective endeavour."

I sign up to that, too.

'Decision on our future in the EU lies with you the voter' says Welsh Conservative leader

A week today, people across the country will head to the polls to decide on the United Kingdom's future relationship with the European Union.

Over the past few months there has been a ferocious debate, some of it accurate, some of it bordering on the ridiculous, but the beauty of this referendum is that ultimately the decision lies with you.

Politicians of all colours, big multinational companies and numerous think-tanks have all had their say – but the future destiny of our country will be quite rightly decided by you. If you believe in further political integration and a journey to the creation of a European super-state, you will vote to remain in the EU and this is a viewpoint, held by some, which I wholly respect.

But if you want a strong United Kingdom with sovereignty back at the heart of our Parliaments and Assemblies rather than in the hands of unelected officials such as Jean-Claude Juncker, who you cannot 'sack' at the ballot box, you will vote to leave.

I have been clear from the outset in my intention to leave what I see is a broken and failing political project – I'm not against Europe and I want us to maintain a positive relationship with our neighbours – but I want us to live on the same street as good neighbours with our friends on the continent, not necessarily in the same house!

Ultimately, I believe we should be in control of how we spend our own money on priorities which we can set here in Wales and the UK - rather than continuing on this journey of greater political integration with unelected European commissioners that have little or no accountability to British taxpayers and can choose to fritter away our money on their pet projects.

On June 23, we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to take back control of our money and borders and restore sovereignty to our shores, but whichever side you might choose in this debate, make sure you exercise your democratic right and vote next Thursday.

Andrew RT Davies AM

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Vale shepherd is 'Bath and West' champion

LEFT: Shepherd Jane Bisset with Shetland ram, Duncan.

ABOVE: Elise was awarded second place in the Young Handlers competition.

LOCAL shepherd, Jane Bissett, recently returned to the Vale from the Royal Bath and West Show, Somerset, bringing home the coveted title of Champion Flockmaster 2016.

The win was a dream come true for Jane, who at the end of 2015 gave up a civil service career to focus on the fortunes of her sheep – The Kennixton flock.

Showing sheep has become a family affair, with Jane's partner, Derek Frankham and their grandchildren, Faith (9), Jacob (6) and Elise (6) all playing their part in getting the sheep ready for the ring.

Jane said: "I keep two pedigree flocks, Poll Dorset sheep and the smaller Shetland sheep and showing is something we can all do as a family. Everyone enjoys a great time at an agricultural show and if you come home with a ribbon, then it's always cause for celebration. Coming home with the title Champion Flockmaster, well, I'm still getting over the shock."

The Royal Bath and West Show was the family's first outing of the season and this year it was the first time that Jane was attending as a full-time shepherd in her own right.

She added: "I have always taken an interest in the flockmaster competition, but always felt that it was for people who were making their living from sheep. But this year I felt for the first time that the flockmaster competition was for me. But with all 'good ideas' when the class got closer I have to admit to wondering what on earth I had let myself in for. The judging took place over the four days of the show and included your sheep, pens and displays. All these were scrutinised by the judge even before you ever made it to the ring."

Only the Shetland sheep were entered in the show so the family were a little disappointed when the Shetland classes were cancelled due to lack of entries.

However, after being re-entered into the Hill and Upland classes the Shetlands, who were the smallest sheep in the group, did rather well, collecting a handful of ribbons for shearling ram, ram lambs, ewes and ewe lambs.

Saturday, the final day of the show, was the ring-craft part of the flockmaster competition where competitors showed their sheep before the judge.

Jane explained: "I was quite nervous and not sure what to expect. The judge chatted to each competitor and examined the sheep, very thoroughly before selecting his line up. When I was asked to step forward with Duncan, my Shetland ram, I was delighted, although I could also see how just how stiff the competition was. When he started to walk towards me with the first place rosette I was really shocked and then before I knew it I was in the championship against a very experienced Fiona West with her Whiteface Dartmoor ram."

Both owners and rams stood side-by-side as the judge decided on the overall winner and much to the delight of the onlooking crowd the Champion Flockmaster went to Jane Bissett.

Jane said: "It was a wonderful day. When the judge awarded us (Duncan and me) the championship, a roar went up from the onlookers, mostly family and friends of both myself and Fiona, and then an equally loud roar as Fiona took reserve."

The real star of proceedings was the quiet and unassuming Shetland ram, Duncan (Kennixton Black Casanova), who during the week had also won the 'Hill and Upland Wool-on-the-Hoof' and had helped six-year-old Elise secure a second place in the Young Handlers competition.

Jane concluded: "Everyone has been so kind and supportive, especially my former colleagues, so I hope this goes some way to showing them that maybe I wasn't totally bonkers by giving up my career. Sometimes in life you just have to follow your dreams and I have been lucky enough to have been able to follow mine."

Kennixton Sheep are registered suppliers of Welsh lamb and mutton as well as producing, Poll Dorset knitting yarn, Shetland fleece, spinning tuition and sheepskins.

Cardiff Airport announces 12 months of passenger growth

MAY FIGURES JUMP BY 27 PER CENT

ANOTHER successful month has been recorded at Cardiff Airport, with passenger numbers increasing by 27 per cent versus the same month last year.

This increase represents 12 consecutive months of growth, bringing the rolling 12-month total of passengers flying from Cardiff to just over 1.279 million.

An airport spokesperson said: "Customers are taking advantage of an increased choice of destinations, more availability and better timings on key routes, plus airlines are offering greater value for money to fly from Cardiff."

The announcement comes following a number of new developments for Wales' national airport.

Flybe has recently marked the one year anniversary of its two-aircraft base at Cardiff Airport. Having enjoyed a successful year of flying, the airline has increased summer flights to Faro and Milan to four times a week and will operate flights up to four times a day to London City from September 12 to step in and help Welsh customers during the Severn Tunnel closure.

Also, Flybe has also released its flights for winter 2016/17 and announced a brand new route to Berlin starting on November 2.

Low-cost Spanish airline Vueling has responded to the demand from Welsh customers and increased its summer programme of flights from Cardiff by some 40 per cent, meaning greater capacity on flights to Alicante, Barcelona, Malaga and Palma Majorca.

The terminal has also undergone improvement, with a brand new walk-through duty free store, coffee shop, bar and restaurant now open in departures.

Debra Barber, managing director and chief operating officer at Cardiff Airport commented: "It's been a fantastic 12 months, we've seen some exciting developments and a busy start to the summer season.

"During May half term week alone we saw more than 35,000 passengers through our doors and enjoy the new look in our departure lounge.

"Additionally, we're continuing to fly the flag for Wales and on Saturday we were pleased to be able to give the Wales football team a fantastic send off for the start of the Euros. Here's to continuing success and more busy summer months to follow."

Breast Centre says 'thank you' to fundraisers

DOZENS of Breast Centre Appeal fundraisers attended a recent 'thank you' event in recognition of their commitment and dedication in raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for the cause.

The Breast Centre in University Hospital Llandough centralises all aspects of the breast care service under one roof, from consultation to diagnosis and treatment.

Maria Battle, chair of Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (UHB) said: "What fundraisers do is absolutely incredible. There are around 100 fundraisers raising money for the appeal with over £250,000 raised for the Breast Centre so far.

"Every single penny donated to the centre goes into the centre, to improve care to our patients.

"From the Health Board and myself I'd like to say 'thank you' for all that you do."

Irene Hicks, who lives in north Ely, has raised more than £21,000 for the charity.

Irene said: "I started to fundraise for the Breast Centre as my daughter-in-law was diagnosed with breast cancer two years ago. I could see the wonderful things the centre was doing, and how wonderful the staff were, from the breast care nurses to the reception staff, they are all great.

"When my daughter-in-law started having treatment and was going to lose her hair, I held a fundraising event for her head shave – this started me off raising money for the centre and I have been doing so ever since."

The Breast Centre Appeal is part of Cardiff & Vale Health Charity (RCN 1056544), the official charity supporting all the wards, departments and specialties of Cardiff and Vale UHB.

For more information on Cardiff & Vale Health Charity, contact the charity office on 02921 841802.

Rocking back the clock!

PHIL HALEY and his Comments will be 'rocking around the clock' as they bring their Bill Haley-style show to the Paget Rooms as part of Penarth's Holiday Festival.

Doors open at 7.30pm and records will be played by DJs Riffs & Quiffs (Shelley Norton and Liam Curtin). Tickets are £10 each from Paul Barrett on 02920 704279.

ADVERTORIAL

Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership

Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company policy of delivering the highest standards possible at all times. 'Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

Locally Cloudy2Clear service Cardiff & surrounding areas and Welsh business owner Phil Powell agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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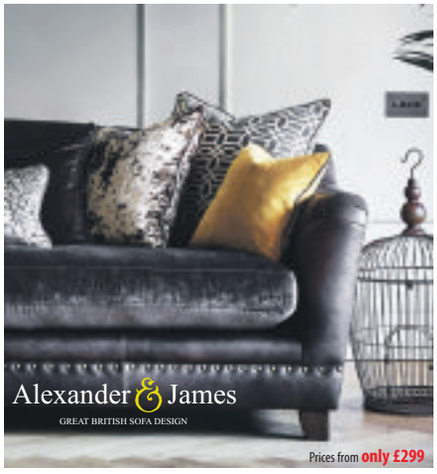

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BE A MAGPIE!

– and find that special Welsh course that suits your requirements

by EMILY WOOD

HAVE you ever been asked the question 'Do you speak Welsh?' If you have, and your answer is 'Yes', or 'Yes, some', then feel proud; you will probably have managed to avoid the shame a person born and bred in Wales feels when they have to answer 'No'. I, unfortunately, am a member of the latter group.

After some time working over the border and overseas, I've started to feel like a bit of fraud, claiming to be Welsh through and through but not being able to speak the language of my own country.

Now that I have moved back to Wales, I've decided enough is enough; I will no longer be ashamed!

After some brief research, I found the perfect Welsh course and signed up for an intensive two-week beginner's option that will take place over the summer, held at Cardiff University. (Courses are available for whatever level you may be, all year round, at times to fit around your work schedule and family life).

'But, did you not have to learn any Welsh at school?' I hear you cry! My linguistic education has, on the whole, been great: I've learnt French, Spanish, a bit of Italian and even dabbled in a spot of Russian. Nevertheless, because I attended a private school and an English university, Welsh has sadly never been a part of it.

After studying languages at university, living abroad and training to be an interpreter and translator, I've come to understand that even acquiring a basic grasp of another language acts as a key to getting right into the heart of another country's culture, history and society.

Therefore, it goes without saying that this applies to your home country too. We live in a bilingual country and we should embrace it!

Another reason I have finally decided to learn Welsh is because, as a linguist, I like to collect languages...a bit like philological magpie.

Furthermore, being a polyglot can only enhance your career prospects. I'm currently working as a translator; a job in which the more languages you can add to your collection, the better, as the more languages you understand, the more work opportunities you will have. Of course, this applies to all professions really.

What employer wouldn't favour someone who would be able to speak to that important international client in their own language or be able to get the company out of a sticky situation when a cross-cultural miscommunication arises?

In general, my reasons for learning Welsh stem from a love for languages, a desire to do well on a professional level, and a dislike of the guilt caused by answering 'No, none at all' to that inevitable question that crops up when someone finds out where you're from.

You may have your own reasons for wanting to learn Welsh, or any other language for that matter, but here is my advice to you: be a magpie! Find a course, sign up for it, maybe get a friend or family member involved, learn as much as you can and see what opportunities unfold!

Visit *learnwelsh.co.uk* to find out more.

RHODRI DAFYDD MILLER MEMORIAL TROPHY IS LAUNCHED BY SCHOOL

YSGOL BRO MORGANNWG will award an annual mathematics trophy in memory of student Rhodri Miller who tragically died in a car accident last year.

Rhodri's parents Dave and Jo explained: "Rhodri is sadly no longer with us. He was an A* maths student studying towards his A-levels, therefore we felt it quite fitting to have a trophy awarded in his memory in this subject. It's the first of its kind at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg."

Rhys Lloyd of year-13 was presented with the trophy on his final day of school by Rhodri's younger brother Iestyn, along with an award of £250 given by Dave and Jo, and the patrons of the King William, in recognition for all his hard work and effort in maths.

Rhys said: "I got a mark of 299 out of 300, but I know Rhodri would have gone that extra mile and got that extra mark!"

Rhodri's family have thanked Ysgol Bro Morgannwg for the school's support in allowing the trophy to be presented each year in memory of their son.

Dave and Jo added: "We also would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who donated money across the bar at the King William IV, which raised £1,500 for the Church of St Cadoc.

"We also want to say a massive 'thank you' to friends, family, customers, businesses and everyone else who attended and donated towards the memorial football match which enabled a memorial bench to be sited outside the reception area of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg."

RHODRI MILLER

Rhodri Miller's family with Rhys Lloyd at the memorial bench.

AM's praise for Rally Day

VALE farmer Andrew RT Davies has described Saturday's Glamorgan YFC Rally Day as a "storming success".

The annual event was once again held at Slade Farm Organics in St Brides Major and included events from welly-wanging to woodwork.

Mr Davies, who acted as one of the judges on the day, said: "The Glamorgan YFC Rally Day is one of the days in the calendar I always look forward to and Saturday was no different and provided yet another storming success.

"It was great to see so many young people taking part in the various competitions and also the number of supporters who came along to watch, not just from the Vale of Glamorgan but right across the region.

"My best wishes go to all the winners on the day who will go on to the various competitions at the Royal Welsh Show next month."

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Emilia Clarke is not just the 'Mother of Dragons'

FILM REVIEW by DANNII THOMAS

***Me before you* is a British-American romantic drama – now if you're a big Game of Thrones fan, especially of Daenerys Targaryen, then this is not the film for you.**

However, if you're a big fan of Emilia Clarke then I think you'll enjoy it. After seeing Emilia on The Graham Norton Show with her agreeing that her character in *Me before you* is more like herself in real life, I can confirm this is true.

It is the feature film debut of director Thea Sharrack, who is the youngest artistic director in British theatre, and known for the likes of *Arabian Nights* and *The Misanthrope*.

The film is a rollercoaster of emotions that is draining – though leaves you with a feeling of warmth and what I can only describe as an understanding of a taboo subject.

It has a fantastic cast that includes Charles Dance and Joanna Lumley. The story is based around Louisa 'Lou' Clarke who comes from a middle class family who unfortunately loses her job. She takes on the job of carer for Will Traynor (Sam Claflin) a disabled man who was involved in a motorbike accident two years previously which resulted in him becoming quadriplegic.

The film starts with how Will's accident happened.

When meeting the character Lou you instantly like her, she's quirky, witty and with a dress sense that could out-do Paloma Faith. Her facial expressions and smile can melt hearts, though I did feel her eyebrows sometimes had a life of their own which is what helps bring out the comedic side of her.

Along with meeting Lou we get to meet her loving family whichs consists of dad Bernard (Brendan Coyle), mum Josie (Samantha Spiro), sister Katrina (Jenna Coleman) and nephew Thomas (Henri Charles).

Bernard is unemployed, and Lou being the bread winner, who has lost her job at a café after six years, has to take on the job of carer.

Later on, when Lou arrives at a very grand castle on the other side of town, we meet Camilla Traynor (Janet McTeer) Will's very upper class mother, who initially comes across as cold but in reality is just a mother looking out for her child.

We also meet Will's father Stephen (Charles Dance) who is instantly a lot warmer. There appears to be some frostiness between Camilla and Stephen – but as the story develops we see that this is not the case.

Lou gets the job with immediate effect so we get to meet Will who has had old stables specially adapted into an annex for him.

Nathan (Stephen Peacocke) plays Will's physical and medical nurse.

Unkempt and scruffy looking, Will has an instant line in sarcasm and rudeness, and though you're tempted to dislike him, you can't because you have an understanding of why he is like that given his circumstances.

Moving on we see Lou arriving day in and day out from 8am to 5pm trying her best to cheer Will up. It is to no avail and she endures a consistent cold shoulder until one day she retaliates. It's a pivotal moment and where we see a change in their dynamic, and the moment we begin to see Will's guard come down.

Before this there are some very funny moments in the film, and afterwards a lot more. The bond between them starts to grow.

Then Lou overhears Camilla and Stephen talking and discovers a secret...

After this she has a long hard think and decides to up the game by cheering Will up with Camilla and Stephen's blessing.

What follows becomes a rollercoaster with laugh out loud moments and tears.

The film also has some sub-plots which add to its joyous nature.

VERDICT: A thoroughly, heart-warming, laugh out loud, cry out loud, romantic, comedy drama. I really enjoyed this story and watching the lives of two young people from completely different backgrounds grow and bond, even if it is over a short period of time. Definitely highly recommended and to the men out there, it's not just a chick-flick.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: The Fault in our Stars (2014) My Sister's Keeper (2009).

• *Film reviewer Gareth Jamieson is currently covering EURO 2016.*

Free digital drop-in sessions

DIGITAL CHAMPIONS offer free digital classes to help local people throughout the Vale improve their IT skills and get online.

The digital inclusion project, run by Newydd Housing Association in partnership with Barry Communities First and the Vale Council, helps local people throughout the Vale get online by providing free digital sessions.

Digital Champion Lisa Sheppard said: "People desperately need help to improve their IT skills but with the high cost of IT classes, people are put off from learning.

"It can also be daunting for people who have no knowledge of computers, but these free sessions are all in a friendly environment with no pressure put on anybody."

If you would like to get support from a Digital Champion, you can go along to one of the weekly drop-in sessions.

To find out when these sessions take place, contact Scott Tandy on 07584 501216.

Local artist pays tribute to Ali 'The Greatest'

Last week, the funeral of Muhammad Ali took place, and here talented south Wales artist Gordon Farmer, who lives in the Garw Valley, pays tribute to the great man – capturing him as a young boxer.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
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www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

VOTE TO LEAVE!

On June 23 you will be given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help shape the future of our country. Here are just some of the reasons why your vote to leave the EU is so crucial.

1 The EU is run by the European Commission from Brussels. This is an unelected, undemocratic, unaccountable and powerful body. We cannot vote it out and consequently our influence within the organisation has been severely reduced.

2 We must be able to control our borders. Immigration will continue but we must restrict it to those with the necessary skills. At the moment we are forced to accept migrants from the EU who are attracted to the UK due to our National Living Wage, which is five times higher than that in Bulgaria or Romania. Mass economic migration, mainly from Africa, will dilute and unbalance our society and with their higher birth rate this problem will only multiply and become divisive.

3 The UK has the fifth largest economy in the world. We have a trade deficit with the EU of £67.8bn per year whilst with the rest of the world it is £31.1bn in surplus. We want to be free to negotiate trade deals with the world, and the EU, who do not want to imperil access to the vibrant UK market.

4 Brussels, through the Employment Directive, has imposed a huge range of restrictions, regulations and bureaucracy on British small and medium businesses and farmers. Only 5% of British firms export to the EU but 100% suffer from Brussels' red tape.

5 The EU has a long-term plan (Five Presidents' Report) for a European Federal State, including an Economic Union, a Financial Union and a Fiscal Union by 2025 at the latest.

6 NATO is the reason that Europe has enjoyed peace for 70 years, not the EU. As part of the federalist ambitions of the EU, the plan is to create a European Army. Imagine our chances, after a vote of 28 members, of being allowed to protect Gibraltar or the Falklands. The UK at present has a seat on the UN Security Council. A federal Europe would replace our seat with an EU seat.

7 At present our Courts of Law can be overruled by the European Court of Justice. We are not allowed to extradite convicted terrorists, nor can we withhold the vote from convicted prisoners. The new European Arrest Warrant flies in the face of the UK's Habeas Corpus, the right to remain innocent until proved guilty in a court. We would be free to create a new British Human Rights Law, more suited to our own interests.

8 In the event of Brexit our elected Parliament will have a mandate from the British People to negotiate our withdrawal from the EU. They will then be in a position to allocate the considerable funds saved to the NHS, farming subsidies and those things specifically in the Nation's interests.

9 Europe is in dire straits. Since joining in 1973 the combined economies of the present 28 members have declined from 36% of world GDP to 17% in 2015 (IMF). There is massive youth unemployment in the Mediterranean countries, Greece is effectively bankrupt, Italy and Spain are politically unstable and the rise of anti-EU and right-wing parties exemplifies the alienation of the European people from the European elites.

10 Britain is one of the most thriving, innovative and enterprising countries in the world. Set us free, release the Brussels shackles and we can regain our country and make it more prosperous and great again.

This advertisement has been funded by local people who are concerned about the future of 'Our Country' for themselves and their children.

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WHAT'S ON, AND WHERE?

Evening of Clairvoyance

ON Friday, July 8 from 7pm – 9pm there will be an evening of clairvoyance with Christine O'Neill at the Guiding Light Centre.

Tickets £8 (purchase in advance) from 116a Park Crescent, Barry CF62 6HE.

Email: guidinglightcentre@yahoo.co.uk, or call 01446 735691/07772 209306.

Frock swap and cocktails!

SUSTAINABLE Wales' Frock Swap on June 16 is an opportunity to reduce, reuse, recycle and refresh wardrobes and save cash.

Good quality items no longer worn, that don't fit or don't suit, can be swapped for others of a similar value.

Refreshments will be available, but bring your own bottle or donate to the Fairtrade cocktail and canapes bar.

Location: The Green Room (above SUSSED), Porthcawl from £7.30pm. Entry £3.

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, June 16 the Art Society welcomes Clare Smith, a curator at the National Museum of Wales, who will give an illustrated presentation of the works of David Jones and Eric Gill.

On Thursday, June 23 we have the final demonstration of the year: water-based mixed media, by painter, illustrator, teacher and writer Elizabeth Haines (elizabethhaines.co.uk/).

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge from 7pm; for details of the society's activities go to www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Ward councillors' surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Buttrills, Castleland and Court wards, Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans, Chris Elmore, Les Sword, Karl Khunell and Stuart Egan, will be holding their monthly advice surgery on Saturday, June 18 from 10am-11am in the small community room of Barry Library, Kings Square. No appointment necessary.

Charity concert

A CHORAL concert, 'Out of Darkness into Light' featuring the Caritas Consort (directed by Lindsay Gray) will take place on Saturday, June 18 at 7pm in All Saints' Church, Barry.

Tickets from Caritas at caritaschoir22@gmail.com, or 0782 332 5844; or from All Saints' Church at music@allsaintsbarry.org.uk.

All money raised will go to Ty Hafan hospice and All Saints' Church roof fund.

AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will hold a surgery on Friday, June 17 from 6pm – 7pm at the Stewart Road Community Centre, Rhoose CF62 3EZ. No appointment necessary.

Clairvoyance in Cadoxton

CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church on Kenilworth Road are holding an evening of clairvoyance on Friday, June 24 with Gareth and Emma.

Admission £5, from 7pm. All welcome.

Llantwit fair

THE Llantwit Major summer fair, organised by the Lions, will be on Saturday, June 25 from 10am – 5pm.

St Illtud's Church, in continuous use since 500AD will also be open for refreshments and guided tours.

This, the oldest centre of learning in Great Britain – plus the magnificent refurbishment of the Galilee Chapel – is a 'must-see' attraction. All welcome!

BH

Porthcawl Art Society

PORTHCAWL Art Society will be holding their summer exhibition on Saturday, June 25 from 10.30am at the Old Police Station, John Street, Porthcawl.

Cancer Research quiz

THE Barry committee of Cancer Research UK Cymru will hold a fundraising quiz on June 29.

The quiz will take place at the West End social Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry at 8pm.

Entry £3 per person, payable at the door. All welcome.

MP's advice

ALUN CAIRNS MP is available for advice on Friday, June 24 at The Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, from 10.30am to 11.30am. No appointment necessary; contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Coytrahen Village Day

The village fete will take place at the Philip Squire Community Centre in Coytrahen on Saturday, July 16 at noon.

Entry free, all welcome.

Bouncy castle, swing boats, climbing wall, falcons and a variety of stalls.

Bois Goetre-Hen choir will perform, also the Big Fat Blues Band.

Barbecue and much more.

Book signing in Penarth

TICKETS are still available for the talk and book signing with award-winning novelist Stevie Davies and her fellow Welsh author Brenda Squires on June 23 in Penarth.

The authors will discuss their latest novels with Mel Griffin of Griffin Books at Waterloo Tea, Stanwell Road, from 7.30pm.

Bar facilities available, and tickets are £5 each including hors d'oeuvres and a £5 discount on book purchases. For more information or to book tickets, call Griffin Books on 02920 706455.

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Sunday 12noon - 4pm

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D935.

● **£2,000:** 788872.

● **The rollover was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 7 0 7 8 4 3 , 238976, 276625, 780995, 704978, 667542, 234154, 505936, 103279, 561665, 811185, 146807, 284113, 768634, 955866, 295263, 542205, 770995, 698346, 802278.

● **£5:** 360054, 436285, 962657, 475217, 314464, 494688, 622736, 690877, 445450, 599824, 521793, 225122, 388954, 614415, 261868, 392385, 678128, 535572, 354288, 805994, 391780, 349970, 422297, 966271, 280392, 776174, 613529, 161104, 620243, 558995, 513397, 928135, 759492, 471575, 801970, 660997, 721098, 855582, 913481, 391365, 753589, 211055, 778172, 606202, 977015, 677323, 985197, 295034, 925968, 878050, 203598, 688379, 854221, 237719, 995593, 131751, 000646, 1273875, 005365, 005539.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Gardens open to the public

THE following gardens will be open to the public this weekend as part of the National Gardens Scheme:

Big House Farm, Llanmadoc, Gower, Swansea, SA3 1DE.

This award-winning inspirational garden of just under an acre combines colour, form and texture in this beautiful much-loved Gower village, described by one visitor as "the best I've seen this season".

Large variety of interesting plants and shrubs, with ambient cottage garden feel, Mediterranean garden, kitchen garden, beautiful views.

Located on the Gower Peninsular, Britain's first designated area of outstanding natural beauty.

Opening information: Sunday, June 19 (1pm–6pm); admission £4, children admitted free; home-made teas.

Cefn Cribwr Garden Club, Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend, CF32 0AP.

CEFN CRIBWR is an old mining village atop a ridge with views to Swansea in the west, Somerset to the south and home to Bedford Park and the Cefn Cribwr Iron Works.

The village hall is at the centre, with teas, cakes and plants for sale. The allotments are to be found behind the hall. Children, art and relaxation are just some of the themes to be found in the gardens besides the flower beds and vegetables.

There are also water features, fish ponds, wildlife ponds, summerhouses and hens adding to the diverse mix. Themed colour borders, roses, greenhouses, recycling, composting and much more. The chapel grounds are peaceful with a meandering woodland trail.

There will also be craft stalls, games, raffles and a table top sale in the hall.

Opening information: Sunday, June 19 (11am–5pm); combined admission £4, children admitted free; tea.

Big House Farm, Gower.

Cefn Cribwr Garden Club.

Tenovus holds a summer lunch

THE annual Tenovus summer lunch was held on June 8, again proving a very popular event with nearly 50 guests, raising almost £500.

Guests were treated to a selection of canapés, and a two course lunch at Mr Villa's Fish and Chip Restaurant and Oyster Bar at the Knap, Barry. Huge thanks to the hosts Christine and Beppe Villa, and their staff, who made the lunch a great success.

Guests also enjoyed a fashion show hosted by Gail Foley, who was showing the new spring/summer 2016 collection of French style with fashion house Captain Tortue. Many thanks to Gail and her models who entertained the guests with some lovely, and very eye catching, outfits. For more information, please visit *captaintortuegroup.com*

Sue McDonagh, an award-winning artist specialising in portraits of children, horses, dogs and coastal landscapes, displayed some of her work at the restaurant for all to enjoy. For further information about Sue and her work, please visit *sue@suemcdonagh.co.uk*.

Wednesday, July 6 will see another Tenovus annual event, the 'Strawberry and Sparkle' afternoon. Guests can enjoy strawberries and cream and a glass of 'sparkle' and will hopefully be rewarded with an afternoon of sunshine. Tickets are available at £6 per person.

To purchase a ticket for this event, or to purchase a copy of 'Cook with Us', our very popular recipe book, please contact Mary Thomas on 01446 733978.

The fundraising committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support. For further information, please visit www.tenovuscancercare.org.uk.

Small, local venues vital for new theatre

FOR anyone with ambitions to make it as a writer, poet or novelist, there are many outlets.

Local magazines, for example, are always looking for new talent.

For playwrights, however, it is a different story. The opportunities to stage work are limited.

It is good to find an organisation such as Clock Tower Theatre Company, which is based in Cardiff and specialises in short, new plays – often by first-time writers.

The company recently staged *The Railwayman* by Penarth-based dramatist, Will Salter. Two performances, at The Little Man Coffee Company on Sunday, June 5, and then June 7 at the Gate Arts Centre, drew great applause from the audiences.

The play was dramatic, intense and sinister, the mood being well sustained by the cast of Jack Muir, Adriana Blue and Joe Burke.

All three produced powerful performances, but Adriana Blue's 10-minute monologue in the middle of the play was particularly memorable.

The Clock Tower Company will be staging another short piece of drama at the same venues in July.

Further details are available at clocktower@gmail.com.

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Some of Simply Stunning Gifts' amazing range of candles

SAMANTHA NASH started Simply Stunning Gifts in May this year and has been delighted with the response to her products.

So delighted, in fact, that she has introduced a new line of bath salts, massage oils and massage bars to go with her comprehensive selection of bath bombs, fragranced soaps, cleansers, bubble baths and face masks.

Samantha said: "Simply Stunning is just the place for all your beauty products to get your body ready in time for your holiday."

Samantha also prepares the gift hampers, which are perfect for all occasions and to suit all budgets.

Simply Stunning is the Vale's flagship store for products by Busy Bee Candles – all of which are handmade in Wales using soy wax and the finest fragrances available.

"Simply Stunning Gifts," said Samantha, "is probably the largest specialised store in the Vale of Glamorgan stocking fragranced products, novelty candles and beauty accessories.

"Entering the store is a sheer delight; the aromas and scents greet you and the selection of quality items, all at reasonable prices, is really amazing."

Simply Stunning Gifts is located above VFM Meats at Palmerston Business Centre, Barry, CF63 2XA or telephone 07694532307.

Looking after your health? Try garlic!

We're all familiar with garlic's flavour credentials – but how much do you know about its health-enhancing qualities, asks Abi Jackson of the Press Association.

Here are some reasons to include garlic as part of a healthy, balanced diet...

• Garlic could help protect the brain.

Some studies have also linked garlic with lower risks of developing age-related brain diseases, including dementia.

• Anti-inflammatory.

Garlic is often hailed for its anti-inflammatory properties, thanks to its high sulphur content.

• Beating high blood pressure.

Too much salt is bad for you, and using an alternative flavouring, such as garlic, can reduce salt levels

Studies have also found that garlic extracts can directly reduce blood pressure.

• Artery aids.

Nutritionist Rob Hobson claims that black garlic – which is basically fresh garlic that's gone through a particular fermentation process – has additional heart health-boosting qualities. An LA BioMed study found black garlic supplements were linked with a reduction of certain types of plaque build-up in the arteries of some people.

• All about the allicin.

Additionally, allicin, a powerful antioxidant, antibacterial, and anti-fungal compound – an active ingredient that's released when fresh garlic is chopped or crushed (to reap the benefits, experts say garlic is best eaten raw) – has also been linked with protecting heart health, including helping reduce 'bad' cholesterol, along with a long list of other potential health boons, from supporting the immune system to improving blood circulation.

Local service for local people

VALE LASER CLINIC opened its second treatment room in April, offering beauty therapy treatments to complement the services already provided within the clinic.

A spokeswoman said: "You can visit Tathan Beautique and take time to pamper yourself with a manicure or pedicure.

"Would you like to get your nails done? We have Gelish Nails and OPI polishes to choose from.

"Eyelash extensions are available if you're looking for permanent lashes for the weekend or an up-coming holiday.

"We also offer waxing, including hot precision waxing and tinting to make sure your are looking and feeling your best.

"Our large treatment room means there is plenty of room to meet with the girls while you have your nails done and catch up on all the latest news together.

"We also have Dr Jo, experienced and a specialist in botox and fillers, who visits the clinic regularly.

Clients can make an appointment for a consultation at any time.

"Tathan Beautique and Vale Laser Clinic are above St Athan Pharmacy. You can come through the shop or through the glass door at the back of the building.

"Come up the stairs and say 'Hi'. We'd love to see you."

Call 01446 750880 for an appointment. Follow us on Facebook, twitter and Instagram for all the latest news and offers.

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When trimming toenails is only part of the job

WENDY'S Professional Toenail Cutting Service does what it says on the tin – with a whole lot more thrown in for free!

Yes, your toes will be trimmed by a fully qualified professional, but what is really on offer is companionship from someone who has great experience of looking after the elderly.

After working in the caring professions for many years, Wendy was recently trained by the NHS and has been calling on clients in the Bridgend, Porthcawl and surrounding area for some time now.

Word of mouth has meant that she has built up a number of satisfied customers.

When she pays a house call, she brings her previous experience to bear, and understands that for many elderly people, the social contact is as important as keeping their toes tidy!

A cut, file and foot massage costs £15, and Wendy carries references and her CRB check information with her.

For contact details, see the advert on this page.

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Return 2 Health Chiropractic Clinic

AT Return To Health Chiropractic Clinic (R2HCC), we have more than 12 years' experience of treating patients.

We are frequently presented with: "I've got sciatica", but 'sciatica' is a term for any pain down the leg caused by an injury in the low back, not a real diagnosis.

True sciatica is typically caused by an injury to a spinal disc, and can lead to irritation or damage to the spinal nerves. This leads to pain down the leg, often past the knee, and can be accompanied by pins and needles, sensation changes and muscle weakness.

Non-radicular sciatica is much more common and is caused by an injury in the muscles, joints or ligaments of the back which then radiates pain into the buttock and/or leg. This typically stays above the knee and doesn't cause symptoms such as pins and needles or weakness.

With the increasing use of tablets and laptops, at R2HCC we are seeing more people, particularly teenagers, with back issues.

Move it! Sitting for too long is not good for the body, particularly the back. It's very easy to sit and slouch for long periods, so get up and move every 30-40 minutes.

Lighten up! Keep your school bag light. If there are lockers at your school, keep heavy books in them.

Use a rucksack! Carrying a heavy bag over one shoulder creates muscular imbalance and uneven stresses on the joints. A rucksack with both straps over your shoulders is far better for you.

If you are worried about your back pain (or any other pain), why not come and visit us? You can book a free advisory consultation by calling 01446 740002.

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You can join a class – there are classes suitable for complete beginners to advanced. Private lessons are another option, with homework provided so that you can practice in between lessons.

Classes are led by Sharon Sylvester who is an experienced, qualified Pilates teacher. Sharon loves teaching Pilates, keeping the classes small, friendly and enjoyable. There is always something new to learn.

Classes are held at St Nicholas Hall, Barry and you can find out more by contacting Sharon on 07830 085606 or email sharonpilates@hotmail.com. The website is www.barrypilates@hotmail.com.

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Mondays 9.15am, 10.30, 11.35am, 12.45pm

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I also offer massage therapy of the hands and feet, which can be beneficial for seniors or those suffering from a variety of ailments. For example, benefits to those with osteoarthritis include decreased pain and lessening stiffness, while those with Alzheimer's and dementia find it a calming and relaxing method of therapy which improves blood flow and overall health.

My prices are very competitive and can be quoted by the hour or by the treatment. I also offer semi-permanent eyelashes and HD eyebrows.

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Mondays 5.30pm Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose Helen 01446 750738/ 07968 355119

Mondays 5:30pm and 7:30pm Tabernacle Church Kings Square, Barry Lorraine 01446 407002

Tuesdays 9:30am Gilgal Church, Woodland Ave, Porthcawl Bev 07912 172674

Tuesdays 9:30am and 11.30am Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major Helen 01446 750738/ 07968355119

Tuesdays 5:30pm and 7:30pm Cornelly Methodist Church (opp. surgery) Dee 07733 267369

Tuesdays 5:30pm and 7:30pm Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major Helen 01446 750738/ 07968355119

Tuesdays 5:30pm Holy Trinity Presbyterian, Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry Joanne 01446 404897

Tuesdays 6:30pm The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG Nicola - 01446 740394

Wednesdays 9.30am Cornelly Methodist Church (opp. surgery) Dee 07733 267369

Wednesdays 9.30am and 11.30am All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth Tracy 07894 275853

Wednesdays 5.00pm All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth Tracy 07894 275853

Wednesdays 6:00pm Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry Joanne 01446 404897

Wednesdays 4:45pm and 6:45pm St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry Annamarie 01446 736534

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend Helen - 01656 720963

Thursdays 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill Millie 07765 040006

Thursdays 9.30am Bridgend Nolton Church Hall (Merthyr Mawr Road) Donna 07790 797008

Thursdays 10.15am St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry CF63 4EL Nicola - 01446 740394

Thursdays 5:30pm Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry Annamarie 01446 736534

Thursdays 5.30pm Pencoed Rugby Football Club Donna 07790 797008

Thursdays 5.30pm & 7.30pm The Cabin, (next to Swim Pool), rear of Hebron Hall, Cross Common Rd, Dinas Powys Tracy 07894 275853

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MAE Menter Bro Ogwr yn rhoi hwb i'r Gymraeg yn sir Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr. Mae'r Fenter m e w n cydweithrediad ag Awen yn cynnal gŵyl undydd ym Mharc Gwledig Bryngarw ar ddydd Sadwrn, y 9fed o Orffennaf rhwng 10.30yb a 4yp.

Bydd Gŵyl Ogi Ogi Ogwr yn darparu cyfleoedd ar gyfer amryw o berfformwyr neu grwpiau sy'n gweithio yn Gymraeg. Bydd hefyd cyfle i'r cyhoedd gasglu gwybodaeth am yr amrywiaeth o wasanaethau a sefydliadau Cymraeg sy'n gweithredu yn yr ardal. Mae Menter Bro Ogwr wedi trefnu'r digwyddiad yma gydag ymrwymiad a chydweithrediad o'i phartneriaid, felly bydd pawb yno!

Mae staff a phwyllgor rheoli Menter Bro Ogwr llawn cyffro ac yn edrych ymlaen at yr ŵyl undydd yma, y cyntaf o'i fath i ddigwydd ym Mharc Gwledig Bryngarw.

Mawr obeithiwn y gallwch chi ymuno â ni yn ystod y dydd, gŵyl Gymraeg llawn hwyl am ddim. Dewch yn llu!

Your Welsh festival!

MENTER Bro Ogwr is a Welsh Language Initiative giving the Welsh language a boost in Bridgend county borough.

The Welsh charity has teamed up with Awen this year in order to provide a one-day festival to be held at Bryngarw County Park on Saturday, July 9, between 10.30am and 4pm.

The 'Ogi Ogi Ogwr' festival will provide the opportunity for a range of performers and groups who work in Welsh, also giving the public a chance to collect information about a variety of services and Welsh organisations operating in the area.

Menter Bro Ogwr has organised this event with cooperation from their partners, so everyone will be there!

The staff and management board at Menter Bro Ogwr are excited and looking forward to the festival, which is the first of its kind to take place at Bryngarw Country Park.

We do hope that you can join us throughout the day, a Welsh fun festival, free for all.

AE

Russian Superjet visits airport

by GEOFF JONES

WE often overlook the really interesting aircraft that come and go at our airport, concentrating on passenger growth and new routes.

The arrival on Saturday morning of this Russian-built Sukhoi passenger jet was a real seminal moment for the airport, and although in the future other Sukhoi Su-100-95s may appear, the chance to see and photograph one of the products of the up-coming Russian aerospace industry was indeed a treat for many local enthusiasts.

This is the first Sukhoi Su-100-95 Superjet to visit Cardiff, a CityJet aircraft EI-FWA which arrived from Dublin on June 11 to operate a day charter for Welsh football fans attending the UEFA Euro 2016 match between Wales and Slovakia in Bordeaux.

CityJet is based in Dublin and made headlines last year when it announced the airline would buy a fleet of Sukhois when most of the world's airlines have ordered Boeings, Airbus, Bombardier and Embraer passenger jets.

The prototype first flew in May 2008 and Sukhoi has accumulated over 300 orders for the type.

The French company Snecma is a risk share partner on the project and Alenia Aeronautica in Italy a strategic partner.

The aircraft can carry around 100 passengers in a 2x2 configuration and is built in Russia by Sukhoi at their Komsomolsk-on-Amur factory in the Voronzeh region of the country.

The Sukhoi Su-100-95 Superjet at Cardiff Airport.

Two joint-venture, Russian-built Power JetSaM146 engines power the aircraft and it received European (EASA) certification in February 2012.

This particular aircraft was delivered from Venice to Dublin on June 2, and in the following days carried out 'route proving' and 'service entry' flights using Prestwick on several occasions.

During the following days, its first commercial flight was to carry the Irish football team and supporters to Paris, for their first match of the tournament against Sweden at the State de France.

CityJet's second Su-100-95 is scheduled for delivery later in June with another two aircraft due to be delivered later this year, part of the airline's order for 15 of the type to replace its now-aging Bae146s/AvroRJ85s.

Sail day raises funds for the RNLI

A TOTAL of 28 yachts, with 250 people aboard, helped raise £24,000 for the RNLI by taking part in Cardiff Sail Day earlier this month.

The lifesaving charity is already calling on people to register their interest in taking part in next year's race. The event depends on local yacht owners donating their time and the use of their vessels to enable corporate sponsors to sail on their vessels.

After mustering in Cardiff Bay, the race started at Penarth Pier and the course plotted a route across the Bristol Channel towards Weston-super-Mare, next heading for Bristol, across to Newport, before returning to Penarth Pier. This year's participants had a closer look at RNLI lifeboats from Barry Dock and Penarth.

The winning boat was *Turkana* owned by Tony Rayer and sponsored by Simon Clarke of Retrofit/Techni3, who won the trophy originally donated by WT Davies some 25 years ago, and whose widow, Joan Davies, presented it to the winners. A close second was *Forward Thinking* owned by Steve Nicholls, sponsored by Alison Hoy of Berry Smith. After the sail, participants were invited to the dock in Cardiff Bay for a buffet, raffle prizes and a celebration.

Cardiff RNLI chairman Colin Lyons said: "Every year this event goes from strength to strength with more and more yachts and corporate sponsors offering their support. The aim is simple: to make as much as we can for the RNLI, one of the best charities in the world. Our grateful thanks go to the boat owners from Cardiff Bay Yacht Club, Penarth Marina, Penarth and Cardiff Yacht Clubs and Cardiff Marina."

Resident to stand as an independent

RHOOSE ward resident, Adam Riley, is standing as an independent candidate in the by-election to be held on June 30.

A civil servant, Mr Riley has lived in East Aberthaw for 12 years with his partner. They have two young children.

Over the past two years, Mr Riley has been a leader of the Save Rhoose Library campaign to retain a professional library service in Rhoose.

Mr Riley, who is not a member of any political party, believes that local politics should be all about local issues.

He told The GEM: "I feel that the Vale Council's history of being run along national party lines has been to the detriment of Rhoose in recent years, with Rhoose suffering from over-development and cuts to valued services.

I believe that ward representation is best done by somebody living in the ward and with nobody living within the ward coming forward to stand as an independent, I have decided to take on the task myself.

"Population growth due to housing development has pushed Rhoose towards the size of a small town. And yet I see none of the benefits of a town – decent infrastructure, a local economy, open spaces for children to play safely.

Adam Riley.

"All I see are more houses. Plans for future development in the ward must be examined and challenged much more rigorously to make sure that they will include what is so badly needed.

"As a Rhoose councillor, I would seek to negotiate with the private operators for an increase in the frequency of bus and rail services.

"I would also campaign within the council for expansion of the Greenlinks bus service to help the people of the ward."

Latest distribution for The GEM

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31/12/15 (Independently audited by David Pinder & Co Ltd Chartered Accountants)

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The number of local paid-for newspapers continues to decline. Here, we keep you up to date with the...

LATEST NEWSPAPER SALES FIGURES!

The GEM	45,489	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Priceless
Barry & District News	3,929	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 50p
Penarth Times	4,132	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 50p
South Wales Echo	19,158	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 65p
Western Mail	18,641	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid 80p
Glamorgan Gazette	9,094	(Jan 2015 - June 2015)	Paid 90p
Wales on Sunday	14,789	(Jan 2015 - Dec 2015)	Paid £1.50

The GEM's weekly figure includes door to door delivery and numerous popular outlets from Penarth to Porthcawl

Latest abc Data available

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Remember - we distribute over 45,000 complimentary copies of **The GEM** throughout the Vale, Bridgend & Porthcawl every week – packed with all the content that makes a community newspaper really worth reading!

(Figures correct as of April 2016)

WELSH – BUT WITH ENGLISH FORBEARS!

THE ROYAL Welsh Regiment would not be expected to have its origins in army formations raised in Shropshire and Kent in 1689, during the reign of William and Mary, but Cowbridge U3A discovered the connections at their June monthly meeting.

The guest speaker was Richard Davies, curator of the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh in Brecon. His illustrated talk began with a potted history showing how the regiments, raised by Lord Herbert in Ludlow and Sir Edward Dering in southern England became the 23rd (Welsh Regiment of Fusiliers) and 24th Regiments of Foot (eventually to be the South Wales Borderers).

Other components in the regimental timeline were the 41st (Invalids) and 69th (South Lincolnshire) and these would merge in 1881 to create the Welch Regiment (yes, spelt with a 'c).

Further amalgamations of units, as the number of infantrymen in the British Army has reduced considerably, would result in the formation of the Royal Welsh in 2006. Battle honours have been gained for actions such as Blenheim, the American War of Independence, Waterloo, the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny.

However, thanks to the 1964 Stanley Baker-produced film *Zulu*, probably the best-known battle involving the 24th is the defence of Rorke's Drift in 1879, a small mission station – about the size of four tennis courts – used as a supply depot and hospital by the military during the invasion of Zululand.

After the British commander, Lord Chelmsford, had split his force to lead a reconnaissance the whole Zulu army had attacked his unfortified camp at Isandlwana (a mountain resembling the 'Sphinx' cap badge worn by the 24th) and wiped out a substantial British contingent, including most of the 1st Battalion, 24th Foot.

More than 4,000 Zulu warriors who had not been involved in this fighting attacked the small garrison, composed mainly of B Company, 2nd Battalion, 24th Foot, about 150 men at Rorke's Drift. The mission station, under the command of Lieutenants Chard and Bromhead, had been hastily prepared for defence with barricades of biscuit boxes and mealie bags.

Mr Davies told the audience that the film's aim was primarily entertainment, not a historical documentary. Experts have identified 144 inaccuracies, one them being to depict the regiment's personnel as being mainly Welsh.

In fact, the 24th was named the 2nd Warwickshires in 1879 and most of the defenders of Rorke's Drift were English or Irish, outnumbering the Welsh by about two to one in B Coy. The real story, without the Hollywood embellishments, is no less heroic.

Private Henry Hook, from Gloucestershire, is shown in *Zulu* to be an alcoholic malingerer, whereas he was teetotal and of exemplary character.

He was defending the hospital with Private John Fielding (who had enlisted under the name John Williams), born in Abergavenny, when the building's roof was set alight. There was no internal corridor and all doors opened only onto a verandah, where the Zulus were massed. The two soldiers had to dig through the mud walls of rooms, dragging patients through the holes while keeping the enemy at bay and hand-to-hand fighting took place in the confined spaces as Zulus gained entry into the rooms.

Eventually, after joining forces with Privates Robert Jones and William Jones, Hook and Fielding managed to shepherd a number of patients to safety. All four men would receive the Victoria Cross, among the 11 of these medals awarded for gallantry during the action; in total, seven VCs went to members of the 24th.

A letter, hastily scribbled on a chit for mealie bags from Assistant Commissary Officer Walter Dunne to his friend Captain Warneford at Cape Colony, is believed to be the first written account of the defence of Rorke's Drift.

It was purchased for £15,000 at auction by the museum a couple of years ago and is now on display in Brecon, as are many other items, not just from the Zulu War, but from 300 years of global travel by the antecedent units of the Royal Welsh.

The audience was even told why the British Army had adopted red coats as their uniform. The answer was simple: the government procured red dye as it was the cheapest available at the time.

Next meeting: a talk entitled: 'The Air Ambulance', by Catrin Hall, at 2pm on Wednesday, July 13 in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome (there is a small fee, which includes refreshments).

SPM

Local company praised for 'fantastic' contribution to economy of Barry

by PHILIP IRWIN

A COMPANY based in Barry has been praised for its "fantastic" contribution to business and the economy in the Vale by local AM Jane Hutt.

Ms Hutt was in Barry for the opening ceremony for Masons Self Storage Centre – the first such unit in south Wales to offer 24/7 access to units, 365 days a year – and she cut the ribbon alongside Gordon Mason, one of the group's senior directors.

Jane Hutt said: "It was a great honour to formally open the Masons newly-expanded 24/7 self storage facility in The Vale and to congratulate this pioneering family business, which celebrates 25 years of self storage – alongside their longstanding removals business, built up by the Masons' grandfather.

"It was also great to visit the Sensory Bus, which makes such a difference to so many peoples' lives and is supported by the Mason's Group of businesses."

The demand for self storage has grown rapidly in recent years, and Masons has made sure that they have expanded to meet that demand.

However, 25 years ago it needed a company with the vision to spot that trend, and Masons were able to take advantage of the directors' foresight.

This latest expansion has taken the number of storage rooms available from 80 to 250, and already a high percentage are booked up.

The GEM asked Gordon and his brother Richard Mason what they felt was behind the growth in self storage.

Gordon said that the biggest factor was the increased mobility that people needed now in their working lives, leading to people putting a number of possessions in storage until they were settled.

However, for some people, the motivation for using storage facilities is different.

Richard said: "We have had people who have kept the same storage unit for 20 years.

"It becomes part of their lives, and they keep the things they can't bear to finally part with."

Gordon added that there were a number of other reasons people booked space. He said: "A number of businesses have done their sums and realised that it can be cheaper to use us than pay rates on buildings and rooms.

"For instance, we have legal firms who store documents, and shops that keep surplus stock here."

The company did a great deal of market research, and has added some important extras. Storage pods and a trailer pick up service are now available for all customers, with no need to hire a van.

Masons also identified a lack of easily accessible, good quality packaging supplies in the Vale, and so have created a shop to sell everything necessary for packing up a home or business – and they are working towards launching the online shop later in the year.

Also present at the opening ceremony was the Positive Interactions 'Sensory Bus' – a charitable project that is supported by Masons.

Gordon Mason said: "When we met Paul and Sylvia from Positive Interactions, who were looking for some help to get their sensory bus off the ground, we were eager to get involved.

"The sensory bus project is a fantastic initiative that could really help children in the Vale and further afield in south Wales.

"The idea is to create a calm environment where people with learning disabilities and their families can come and relax. Sensory rooms can have benefits for everyone, but may be particularly beneficial for children and adults with special needs, behavioural disorders, sensory processing disorders, disabilities and conditions including dementia, autism, brain injury, chronic pain, and for those in palliative care.

"Positive Interaction's sensory bus will be able to go a step further, by taking the sensory environment to those who might not be able to easily access a centre."

Jane Hutt and Gordon Mason prepare to cut the ribbon.

Guests at the opening.

ABOVE: Richard Mason, Jane Hutt and Gordon Mason.

The 'Sensory Bus' is a charity supported by the Masons group.

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Kids Out day for Barry children

THE Rotary Club of Barry supported Rotary's national 'Kids Out' event on June 8 and took 40 pupils from Oakfield and Colcot primary schools in Barry by coach to Brean Sands Theme Park in Somerset.

The pupils enjoyed the theme park rides, as well as being provided with hats, sweets and ice-cream for all!

The day out was made possible thanks to the continued generosity of the general public in supporting the Rotary Clubs' fundraising events.

Speaking on behalf of the Rotary Club of Barry at the end of the very successful day, president Paul Halstead, said:

"It was a pleasure to accompany the pupils and see their smiling faces as they enjoyed themselves. The Barry Club's Kids Out event was organised on behalf of the Rotary Club of Barry by past president, Carl Kerr."

Rotarian Jill Osborne

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER 40MYA A4050 FFORDD Y PORTHLADD A DIRYMIAD) 2016

Hysbysir drwy hyn fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 84 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn cynnig, mewn dim llai na 21 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlen isod:

Gall manylion llawn y cynigion, gan gynnwys y Gorchymyn arfaethedig a chynllun Rhif T/15/144/WS, gael eu harchwilio yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol. Rhaid cyflwyno unrhyw wrthwynebiad sydd gennych i'r cynnig hwn i Gyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai (Cyf. IF800) yn ysgrifenedig erbyn 8 Gorffennaf 2016 a rhaid nodi eich rhesymau dros wrthwynebu.

Rhoddir gwybod i unrhyw un sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig, yn sgîl Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Myneddiad i Wybodaeth) 1985, fod gofyniad cyfreithiol ar y Cyngor hwn i roi unrhyw sylwadau a geir mewn ymateb i'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig ar gael i'r cyhoedd eu harchwilio.

Gorchymyn Cyfyngiad Cyflymder 40mya

ATODLEN 1

Ni ddylai unrhyw berson yrru na chaniatáu i gerbyd (ac eithrio Cerbyd Eithriedig) yrru ar gyflymder o fwy na 40 milltir yr awr rhwng y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod:

ATODLEN 2

A4050 Ffordd y Porthladd o Groes Cwrlwys i'r Barri

O bwynt 200 metr i'r de-ddwyrain o gylchfan Brooklands Terrace tua'r de i bwynt tua 70 metr i'r de-orllewin o'r gyffordd â'r A4231 Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri.

Dirymu'n rhannol y Gorchymyn canlynol:-

Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir De Morgannwg A48 / A4050 (Cyfyngiad Cyflymder) 1991.

Atodlen 2 (50mya)

Ffordd y Porthladd (A4050 Prif Ffordd)

O bwynt 200 metr i'r de-ddwyrain o gylchfan Brooklands Terrace tua'r de i bwynt tua 70 metr i'r de-orllewin o'r gyffordd â'r A4231 Ffordd Gyswllt Dociau'r Barri.

Dirymu'r Diwygiad i'r Gorchymyn canlynol:-

Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (A4050 Ffordd y Porthladd y Barri) (Diwygiad i'r cyfyngiadau cyflymder 40 a 50mya Cyfredol) 2011

Dyddiedig 16 Mehefin 2016

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Yr Alpau, Gwenfô CF5 6AA

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(PORT ROAD A4050 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND REVOCATION) ORDER 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than twenty one days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedule below:

Full details of the proposals, to include the proposed Order and plan No T/15/144/WS, may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objection you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Environment & Housing (Ref. IF800) in writing by 8th July 2016 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.

Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

40mph Speed Restriction Order

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle (with the exception of an Exempted Vehicle) to proceed at a speed greater than 40 miles per hour between the locations specified in Schedule 2 below:

SCHEDULE 2

A4050 Port Road from Culverhouse Cross to Barry

From a point 200 metres south east of the Brooklands Terrace roundabout in a generally southerly direction to a point approximately 70 metres southwest of the junction with the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Revoke in part the following Order:-

The County Council of South Glamorgan A48 / A4050 (Speed Restriction) Order 1991.

Schedule 2 (50mph)

Port Road (A4050 Principal Road)

From a point 200 metres south east of the Brooklands Terrace roundabout in a generally southerly direction to a point approximately 70 metres southwest of the junction with the A4231 Barry Docks Link Road.

Revoke the Amendment to the following Order:-

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (A4050 Port Road Barry Amendment to Existing (40 and 50mph speed restrictions) Order 2011

Dated this 16th day of June 2016

M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps Wenvoe CF5 6AA

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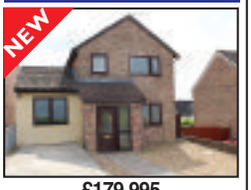
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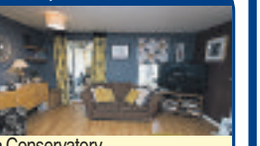
- 3 bedroom semi detached property
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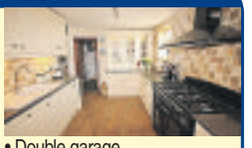
- 4 bedrooms
- Detached annex
- Double garage
- Beach location

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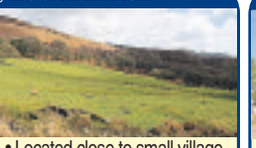
GELLI DDU FARM, MOUNTAIN ASH


- Approximately 336 acres
- Potential for agricultural and equestrian use
- Located close to small village of Cwmpennar

£650,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND

- Semi detached property
- 3 bedrooms
- Extended and improved
- Well regarded location

£215,000

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- Mid-terrace property
- 3 bedrooms
- Private garden to rear
- Located near Bridgend town centre

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- 6.52 acres residential development site
- Planning consent for 59 units
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GROESWEN ROAD, CAERPHILLY

- Development potential
- Planning for three cottages
- Sought after location
- Rarely available

£330,000

WEST WINDS, PEN-Y-FAI

- Extended 4 bedroom property
- Secluded location
- Generous gardens and paddock
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CLARE DRIVE, COWBRIDGE

- Extended 4 bedroom detached property
- 3 reception rooms
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- Private Parking

£415,000

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- Extending to approximately 23 acres
- Located on the outskirts of Garth
- Small areas of amenity woodland

£50,000

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- Development site
- C.10.6 acres
- Planning for 3 bedroom house
- Rare opportunity

£189,000

THE SYCAMORES, LLYSWORNEY

- 4 bedroom detached cottage
- 3 reception rooms
- Large gardens
- Detached garage

£500,000

MAES SLOWES LEYES, RHOOSE

- Spacious family home
- 4 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- Garage

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- Garden flat
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Sales

Richard Street £89,950

TWO BEDROOMS
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GAS CENTRAL HEATING
PARTIAL DOUBLE GLAZING
NO CHAIN

Sales

Aberystwyth Crescent £120,000

WEST END LOCATION
TWO BEDROOMS
CLOSE TO AMENITIES
NO CHAIN

Sales

Brookfield Avenue £145,000

TWO BEDROOM SEMI
DETACHED, FITTED KITCHEN
OFF ROAD PARKING
VIEWING ADVISED

Sales

Blackberry Drive £224,950

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DETACHED
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ENCLOSED GARDEN
INTEGRAL GARAGE

Sales

Station Street £130,000

THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
GOOD SIZED FAMILY ACCOMMODATION
CLOSE TO TOWN CENTRE
NO CHAIN

Sales

Coronation Street £120,000

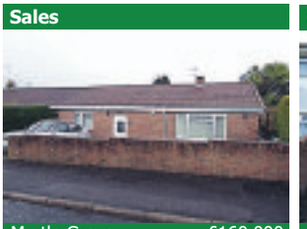
TOWN CENTRE
TWO BEDROOMS
LOFT ROOM
ENCLOSED GARDEN
DETACHED GARAGE
CLOSE TO AMENITIES

Sales

Gladstone Road £215,000

FOUR BEDROOMS
SEMI DETACHED
BRISTOL CHANNEL VIEWS
SINGLE GARAGE
VIEWING ADVISED

Sales



Myrtle Grove £160,000

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VIEWINGS ADVISED

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Holton Road £109,950

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CHANNEL VIEWS
CAR HARDSTANDING
NO CHAIN

Sales

Wolfe Close £90,000

TWO BEDROOMS
GROUND FLOOR MAISONETTE
CONSERVATORY
ENCLOSED GARDEN
NO CHAIN

Sales

Bell Street £100,000

THREE BEDROOMS
ENCLOSED GARDEN
WEST END LOCATION
NO ONGOING CHAIN
CLOSE TO AMENITIES

Sales

Greenacres £190,000

THREE BEDROOMS
DETACHED
WELL PRESENTED
GARAGE
SUMMER HOUSE

Sales

Nordale Rise £99,950

TWO BEDROOMS
SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
PARKING FACILITIES
ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN

Sales

Blodyn y Gog £250,000

DETACHED
FOUR BEDROOMS
INTEGRAL GARAGE
SPLIT LEVEL
PENCOEDTRE VILLAGE

Sales

Great Brynhill Lane £395,000

VALE VIEWS, FOUR BEDROOMS
FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS
DETACHED
FINISHED TO A HIGH STANDARD
NO CHAIN

Sales

Woodham Park £175,000

DETACHED, THREE BEDROOMS
CONSERVATORY
GARAGE
DRIVEWAY
NO CHAIN

Sales

Poplar Court £108,000

TWO BEDROOMS
OFF ROAD PARKING
WELL PRESENTED
ENCLOSED GARDEN
NO CHAIN

Sales

Gerddi Margaret £85,000

IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS
ONE BEDROOM
TOP FLOOR
WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT
ALLOCATED PARKING

Sales

Port Road East £185,000

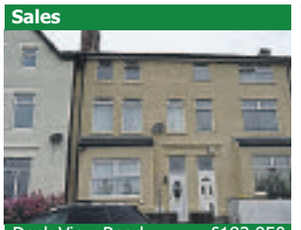
SEMI DETACHED
BUNGALOW
OFF ROAD PARKING
VALE VIEWS

Sales

Port Road East £184,950

THREE BEDROOMS
DETACHED
OFF ROAD PARKING
NO CHAIN

Sales



Dock View Road £182,950

TOWN CENTRE LOCATION, FOUR
BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
ENCLOSED GARDEN
CLOSE TO LOCAL AMENITIES
CHANNEL VIEWS

Sales

St Osyth Court £170,000

TWO BEDROOMS, BALCONY
ALLOCATED PARKING
CHANNEL VIEWS
CLOSE TO AMENITIES
NO ONGOING CHAIN

Sales

Park Avenue £235,000

WESTEND LOCATION
FOUR BEDROOMS
TWO SHOWER ROOMS, SEA VIEWS
BALCONY
ENCLOSED GARDEN

Sales

Lydstep Road £129,950

THREE BEDROOMS
SEMI DETACHED
OFF ROAD PARKING
VIEWING ADVISED

The Property Ombudsman NAEA ARLA
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The Administration Fee covers the cost of agreeing and setting up the contract and includes the referencing fee. Fees are £160+ VAT & £75 + VAT for each additional person/guarantor

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NEW

RICHARD STREET, BARRY
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM TO FIRST FLOOR
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN - LANE ACCESS
- AMIDST TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- NO CHAIN
- SOLD AS SEEN - SERVICES NOT TESTED
- ER=F

£89,950

NEW

WINDSOR ROAD, BARRY
- PRE-OWNED APARTMENT
- 2 BEDROOMS
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE/KITCHEN
- SITUATED ON 2ND FLOOR
- LIFT & SECURITY ENTRY SYSTEM
- CCTV MONITORING ALL FLOORS
- GYMNASIUM AND LAUNDRY ROOM
- PARKING
- WEST END LOCATION
- NO CHAIN ER=D

£107,500

NEW

SEAPOINT, BARRY
- TOP FLOOR (3RD) APARTMENT
- STUNNING VIEWS OVER THE OLD HARBOUR
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN,BATHROOM
- PARKING IN A BLOCK-FIRST COME BASIS
- £70.00 PCM MAINTENANCE CHARGE
- VIEWING ADVISED
- EPC - TBA

£112,500

NEW

QUEEN STREET, BARRY
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- WELL MAINTAINED & REFURBISHED
- ELEVATED REAR GARDEN
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER=D

£125,000

NEW

QUEEN STREET, BARRY
- TRADITIONAL MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
- WELL PRESENTED
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- ER=D

£127,000

NEW

WOODLANDS ROAD, BARRY
- TRADITIONAL BAY FRONTED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DOUBLE GARAG
- UPVC D/G & GCH VIA COMBI BOILER
- ER=D

£144,950

NEW SSTC

WHITMORE PARK DRIVE, BARRY
- MODERN SEMI DETACHED
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM - OPEN PLAN KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
- DRIVEWAY PROVIDING OFF ROAD PARKING
- NO CHAIN
- ER=D

£164,950

NEW

SPRING STREET, BARRY
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- 3 BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- FAMILY BATHROOM TO 1ST FLOOR
- GARAGE & OFF ROAD PARKING
- UPVC THROUGHOUT
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING VIA COMBI
- ER=D

£169,950

NEW

TREM MAPGOLL, BARRY
- 3 STOREY TOWN HOUS
- INTEGRAL GARAGE & CLOAKROOM
- 1ST FL: LOUNGE & KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- FRENCH DOORS OPENING ONTO REAR GARDEN
- 2ND FL: 3 BEDROOMS
- MASTER EN SUITE
- DRIVEWAY
- NO CHAIN
- ER=C

£189,950

NEW

BLACKBERRY DRIVE, BARRY
- MODERN DETACHE
- LIVING DINING ROOM
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS (MASTER EN-SUITE)
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
- POPULAR WEST END ARE
- ER=TBC

£224,950

NEW SSTC

BLODYN Y GOG, BARRY
- SPLIT LEVEL PROPERTY
- 4 BEDROOMS
- GROUND FL: CLOAKROOM. LOUNGE WITH BALCONY
- DINING ROOM, KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- BEDROOM 4/STUDY
- LOWER LEVEL: 3 BEDROOMS
- EN SUITE SHOWER ROOM
- FAMILY BATHROOM & UTILITY
- PARKING FOR SEVERAL CARS
- ER=D

£259,950

NEW

MAES Y GWENYN, RHOOSE POINT
- WELL PRESENTED
- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- EN SUITE & DRESSING ROOM
- LIVING ROOM, DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- PRIVATE ENCLOSED GARDEN
- DOUBLE GARAGE
- EPC=C

£299,950

NEW

ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY
- SHOW HOME PRESENTED
- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM,DINING AREA
- SITTING ROOM
- REPLACEMENT FITTED KITCHEN
- GROUND FLOOR SHOWER ROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- 1ST FLR: SHOWER ROOM
- DOUBLE DETACHED COACH HOUSE TO THE REAR
- ER=E

£354,950

GILBERT STREET, BARRY
- TRADITIONAL MID TERRACE
- LIVING ROOM & DINING ROO
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS - MASTER ENSUITE
- GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM
- GARAGE & LANE ACCESS
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING VIA COMBI
- NO CHAIN
- ER=E

£74,950

OFFERS CONSIDERED

BROOK STREET, BARRY
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FIRST FLR: BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED GARDEN
- GARAGE/LANE ACCESS
- OFFERED WITH NO CHAIN
- NO CHAIN
- IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
- ER=F

£81,500

LITTLE MOORS HILL, BARRY
- END OF LINK
- LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAM. BATHROOM
- UPVC D GLAZING
- NO CHAIN
- ER=D

£99,950

BELVEDERE CRESCENT, BARRY
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING/DINING AREA
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED LOW MAINTENANCE REAR
- UPVC - GCH
- TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- ER=D

£105,000

HANNAH STREET, BARRY
- TRADITIONAL END OF TERRACE
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- SHOWER BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED GARDEN
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER=E

£112,000

CLIVE ROAD, BARRY
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- THREE BEDROOMS
- GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM
- THROUGH LOUNGE/DINER
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
- GCH VIA COMBI BOILER
- WATERFRONT VIEWS
- NO CHAIN
- ER=D

£118,500

3 BEDS +ATTIC AREA

BASSETT STREET, BARRY
- MID TERRACE TRADITIONAL
- 3 BEDROOMS
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- ATTIC ROOM
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- CONVENIENT LOCATION
- GCH VIA COMBI
- NO CHAIN
- ER=E

£119,000

SALISBURY ROAD, BARRY
- END OF TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM TO 1ST FLR
- BACKING ONTO PORTHKERRY PARK
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- NO CHAIN
- ER=D

£129,950

NORWOOD CRESENT, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED
- 3 BEDROOMS
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- SHOWER ROOM
- UPVC D/G & GCH VIA A COMBINATION BOILER
- AMPLE OFF ROAD PARKING
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- ER=E

£134,950

BUNGALOW

CAE GLAS, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LIVING ROOM
- IN NEED OF SOME MODERNISATION
- DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
- OFFERED WITH NO CHAIN
- CUL DE SAC POSITION
- ER=D

£137,000

AMHERST CRESCENT, BARRY
- ELEVATED SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM OPENING TO A RAISED DECKED AREA
- FAR REACHING SEA VIEWS
- KITCHEN, UTILITY AREA
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- PATIOED GARDEN
- GARAGE
- NO CHAIN
- EPC=D

£139,999

BARRY ROAD, BARRY
- END OF TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- ENCLOSED LEVEL REAR GARDEN
- OUTHOUSE LEADING TO FRONT
- WELL PRESENTED
- NO CHAIN
- VIEWING ADVISED
- ER=E

£142,500

ST. BRANNOCKS CLOSE, BARRY
- END OF LINK
- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- TWO BEDROOMS (PREVIOUSLY THREE)
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- GARAGE/PARKING IN BLOCK
- CUL DE SAC POSITION
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- EPC=D

£159,950

BROAD STREET, BARRY
- END OF TERRACED
- TRADITIONAL DWELLING
- TWO REC. ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- FIVE BEDROOMS
- THREE STOREY PROPERTY
- WELL PRESENTED
- ER=D

£174,950

WHITMORE PARK DRIVE, BARRY
- WELL PRESENTED
- CORNER POSITIONED SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING -OPEN PLAN KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- GARAGE/AMPLE PARKING
- LOW MAINTENANCE REAR GARDEN
- ER=C

£179,950

ST BRANNOCKS CLOSE, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED
- EXTENDED DWELLING
- WELL PRESENTED
- LIVING ROOM
- OPEN PLAN KITCHEN/DINER/SITTING AREA
- THREE BEDROOMS
- BALCONY OFF MASTER
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- NO FORWARD CHAIN
- ER=D

£179,950

SANDRINGHAM CLOSE, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM
- SEPARATE DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- THREE BEDROOMS
- DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER=C

£189,950

MARINE DRIVE, BARRY
- MID LINKED TOWN HOUSE
- GR FLR:- W.C. SHOWER ROOM
- BEDROOM/SITTING ROOM
- 1ST FLR:-LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- 2ND FLR:- FURTHER THREE BEDROOMS
- NO CHAIN - IN NEED OF MODERNISATION
- DRIVEWAY/PARKING
- ER=F

£189,950

NEW PRICE

GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY
- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- PERIOD PROPERTY
- SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- ORIGINAL FEATURES THROUGHOUT
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- GARAGE WITH LANE ACCESS
- ER=D

£215,000

VIEWING ESSENTIAL

VICTORIA PARK ROAD, BARRY
- TRADITONAL SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM WITH BALCONY OVERLOOKING REAR
- STEPS DESCENDING TO BASEMENT ROOMS
- THREE BEDROOMS
- 1ST FLR. THREE BEDROOMS,FAM. BATHROOM
- LOWER GRND. THREE FURTHER ROOMS
- SIDE ACCESS LEADING TO FRONT
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT • ER=C

£215,000

BUTTRILLS ROAD, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED
- 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- ELEVATED VIEWS
- LIVING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- DRIVEWAY
- BUILDING PLOT WITH CONSENT FOR A DETACHED DWELLING
- IDEAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY
- ER=D

£219,950

SLADE ROAD, BARRY
- EXTENDED DETACHED
- SHOW HOME PRESENTED
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM OPENING TO MODERN KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- THREE BEDROOMS
- FAM. BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN,GARAGE
- ER=C

£226,000

MERTHYR DYFAN ROAD, BARRY
- SEMI DETACHED DORMA BUNGALOW
- SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
- GR FLR. LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM OR BEDROOM
- INTEGRAL GARAGE
- MASTER BEDROOM WITH ENSUITE
- FAM. BATHROOM
- 1ST FLR.TWO FURTHER BEDROOMS TO ATTIC
- DRIVEWAY/PARKING
- ER=D

£229,950

MIN-Y-MOR, BARRY
- SPACIOUS DETACHED DORMA BUNGALOW
- COLD KNAP VIEWS
- LIVING,DINING,KITCHEN,
- U. ROOM,CONSERVATORY
- TWO BEDS,DRESSING RM,CLOAK, SITTING RM
- STUDY, SEP.W.C BATHROOM
- 1ST FLR. TWO FURTHER BEDROOMS
- WITH ENSUITE W.C. CLOAK
- NO CHAIN/DRIVEWAY
- ER=D

£249,950

GLAS Y LLWYN, BARRY
- MODERN DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM/DINING
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- UTILITY ROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS (EN-SUITE)
- FAM. BATHROOM
- GARAGE/DRIVEWAY
- VIEWING ADVISED
- ER=D

£250,000

THE GROVE, BARRY
- SUBSTANTIAL FAMILY HOME
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- MODERN SHOWER ROOM
- FIVE BEDROOMS
- 1ST FLR BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED GARDEN
- GARAGE/LANE ACCESS
- NO CHAIN
- ER=C

£269,950

LON FFERM FELIN, BARRY
- MODERN DETACHED
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN,UTILITY RM
- FOUR BEDROOMS (MASTER ENSUITE)
- DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER=D

£269,950

PETERSWELL ROAD, BARRY
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- 4 BEDROOMS
- MASTER ENSUITE
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
- GROUND FLOOR SHOWER ROOM
- SLATE PAVED PATIO
- UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
- UTILITY ROOM
- OFF ROAD PARKING & APPROVAL FOR GARAGE
- ER=D

£369,999

SPACIOUS R&B LOCATION

ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY
- SPACIOUS SEMI DETACHED
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- DINING AREA, CONSERVATORY
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS,SHOWER ROOM
- STAIRS RISING TO ATTIC/HOBBY AREA
- DRIVEWAY PROVIDING PARKING
- GARAGE VIA REAR LANE
- VIEWING ADVISED
- ER=E

£374,950

120 High Street, Barry
West End Town House
6 Bedrooms; 2 Reception Rooms
No Onward Chain
£164,950 G1

Welford Street, Barry
3/4 Bedrooms; Very Spacious
2 Receps & Large Eat In Kitchen/Diner
Stunning First Floor Bathroom; Sea Views
£199,950 tbc

Pontypridd Road, Barry
4 Bedrooms
3 Receps; 2 Baths
Large Garden; Small Annexe
£269,950 C71

Chris Davies

Rhoose 01446 711900
Llantwit Major 01446 792020
Barry 01446 700007
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

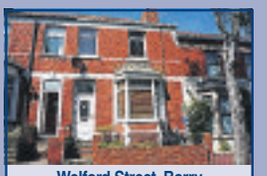
Beaconsfield, Romilly Road, Barry
2 Double Bedrooms With Robes
Sea Views; Modern Kitchen
No Chain
£109,950 C69

Holton Road, Barry
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Central Location; Good Size House
No Chain; Ideal First Purchase
£119,950

Beryl Road, Barry
2 Bedrooms; Ground Floor
Nicely Presented Throughout
Central Barry; No Onward Chain
£124,950 C72

Court Road, Barry
3 Bedrooms; 3 Receptions
Enclosed Rear Garden; uPVC
Very Substantial Property
£129,950 E39

The Heathers, Barry
2 Bedrooms - Both With Wardrobes
Modern Kitchen and Bathroom
Low Maintenance Garden With Shed
£129,950 C75



Welford Street, Barry
3 Double Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Large Kitchen/Dining Room
Superb West End Location
£164,950 E43

Wenvoe Terrace, Barry
3 Bedrooms; 2/3 Receptions
Fabulous Open Sea Views; No Chain
Generous Garden With Log Cabin
£169,950 F39

Whitewell Road, Barry
4 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Extended Kitchen; 2 Garages
Superb Bathroom & Shower
£169,950 D55

Thistle Close, Barry
4 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Good Size Throughout
Very Large Rear Garden
£229,950 D63

Pontypridd Road, Barry
3 Bed Semi Backing Farmer's Fields
2 Receps; Ground Flr Shower Rm/WC
First Floor Jacuzzi Bathroom/WC
£239,950 D68

Heol Eryr Mor, Barry Island
5/6 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Eat In Family Kitchen
3 Bathrooms; Sea Views; Double Garage
£385,000 C74

Meadowcroft, Rhoose
Redecorated Studio Apartment
Allocated Parking
Ideal 1st Buy or Buy To Let
£59,950 E42

Kenson Close, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms & A Study
2 Receptions; Quite Location
Good Parking & Garage
£184,950 D63

Hearte Close, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms/2 Receptions
Select Cul-De-Sac Location
Large Family Rear Garden
£230,000 D62

Matthew Road, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; Very Large Plot
Conservatory; Excellent Order
Potential To Extend Subject to Regs
£242,000 E49

Glyn Y Gog, Rhoose Point
4 Double Bedrooms; 2 En-Suite
Large Conservatory Extension
Head Of The Cul-De-Sac
£249,950 D63

Lets!

Speedwell Drive, Rhoose
Two Bedrooms
Bathroom With Shower
Enclosed Garden
Band C
£550 pcm

Caer Worgan, Llantwit Major
Two Bedroom
Driveway Parking
Enclosed Low Maintenance Garden
D65. BAND C
£575pcm

Burlington Street, Barry
Two Bedrooms
Well Presented
Shower
D64. Band B
£595 PCM

Cei Dafydd, Barry
Upper Floor Apartment,
Two Bedrooms
Two Bathroom
C77. Band C
£600pcm

Broadway, Cowbridge
Two Bedrooms
Conservatory
Family Bathroom
C69. Band E
£650 pcm

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F/H £495,000

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Brendon View Close, Rhoose
5 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Very Large Garden; Immaculate Order
Seldom Available; Central Village Location
£395,000 D63

Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhoose Point
5 Bedrooms; 3 Receptions
Superb Conservatory; Jacuzzi Bathroom
Sea Views; Child Friendly Garden
£399,950 C71

Rhoose Road, Rhoose
5/6 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Grade 2 Listed; Large Gardens
Garage; Long Drive; Period Features; No Chain
£450,000 E49

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DON'T DO IT YOURSELF...
....CALL A PROFESSIONAL FROM OUR A-Z LIST!

Advertisers please note : deadline for Classified Section is 5pm Monday (to appear in the following week's edition). Telephone 01446 774484. email: vanessa.james@tindlenews.co.uk

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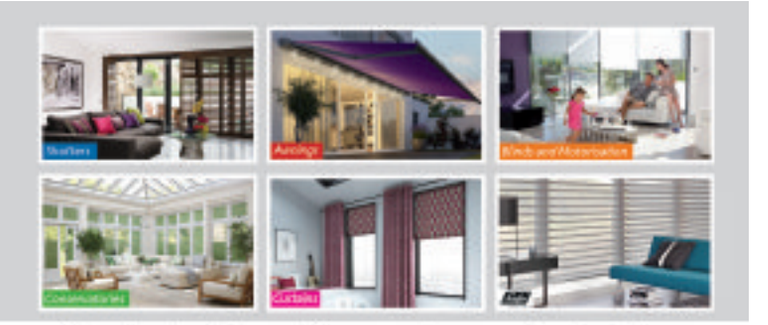

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Family Notices

HEMMING
Marian Rosamund (Née Bishop)

Peacefully surrounded by her family after a short illness at the University Hospital of Wales on June 14.

Marian will be sadly missed by all.

Beloved wife of Michael of over 60 years. Cherished mother of Karen, Michael, Claire, Nicholas, Richard and Mariane. Grandmother to 18 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Sister to Joan and Sylvia.

Family flowers only at the church and donations to MacMillan Cancer Support.

For Funeral arrangements please contact mariane@redtop-media.com or 01446 751 721.

JONES
Alun John

Peacefully passed away at home surrounded by his family on Monday, June 13.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the Memorial Celebration of his life in the Chapel of Rest on Friday, June 24 at 11am, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired will be collected for Cancer Charities at the funeral.

PERKS
Norman

Peacefully at home on his 74th birthday, Sunday, 5th June 2016; Norman of Bridgend. Beloved husband of the late Joyce, dearly loved father of Russell, Anthea and Jane. Much loved brother of Marina and a treasured grandfather and uncle.

Funeral on Wednesday, 22nd June, service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 11am. Family flowers only with donations as desired to Diabetes UK c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend, CF31 1HE. Tel 01656 650831.

DALY
Naithan Stephen

Passed Away 3rd June 2016.

It is with our deepest sorrow that we inform you of the passing of Naithan, the beloved son of Janet Rees. Brother to Adrian, Bethan and Jemma, brother-in-law of Gemma, Willow and Anthony. Uncle to much loved nieces and nephews.

He will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

We welcome all family and friends to the celebration of his life which will be held on 24th June at Coastlands Family Church, Tennyson Road, Barry at 11am, followed by interment at Cathays Cemetery, Fairoak Road, Cardiff at 12.30pm. Family flowers only by request. If desired donations to be made at the service will directly go to Naithan's mental health team.

"A peaceful mind is a happy one"
REST IN PEACE

For all enquiries please contact Lyndsay Ellis Funeral Directors, Court Road, Tel: 01446 407962.

ADAMEC
John

Peacefully on the June 12, John of Llantwit Major. A very dearly loved husband, father and grandfather.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Wednesday, June 22 in Our Lady & St. Illtyd's Catholic Church at 1pm, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45pm.

Family flowers only but donations may be made to Air Ambulance Wales c/o the funeral home (cheques only).

POWNEY
Brian

Formerly of Dinas Powys, Brian passed away suddenly on May 31, aged 63. Brother of Janice, Phillip and Wenna.

Funeral service being held on Friday, June 17 at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 1pm.

SHERYN
Hinton Hosking

Hinton Sheryn was a former postmaster of both Pontycymmer and Cowbridge.

Funeral on Wednesday, June 29, service and cremation at Bournemouth Crematorium, Strouden Avenue, Bournemouth, BH8 9HX at 11.15am.

Family request no flowers. Donations in lieu may be made to Marie Curie. Enquiries please to Adrian Evans (nephew) on 01380 860853.

WATTS
Gareth

Peacefully on June 5 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Much loved husband of Lynne who was close beside him at the end.

Funeral on Friday, June 24 at 3.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Alzheimer's Research UK, Suite 1 Ground Floor, North Court, David Street, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 3TP, (cheques only).

Acknowledgements

TAPSCOTT
Angela

Norma, Raymond and family have truly appreciated the overwhelming support we received during our devastating loss. Thank you everyone.

JONES
Henry Cadwgan
Pentyrch

Eira and Vaughan would like to thank relatives and friends for their kind messages of sympathy and support during their sad loss of Henry. We have been overwhelmed by the tremendous amount of cards, flowers and messages received.

We would like to thank Philip Preene and staff of W.H.Preene & Son for their dignity and help shown to us and Reverends Michael John and John Binny for the sincere and caring service at St Catwg's Church.

A special thank you to Anne Thomas, the organist; Henry would have enjoyed the wonderful singing. Also, to Mr Don Llewellyn who gave a magnificent eulogy to 'Butch'.

We would also like to thank Hywel Wigley and staff at Acapela, Pentyrch, for the superb buffet which they prepared for everyone after the funeral service.

Finally, a big thank you to Mr Jason Ward for bringing his 1966 Vanden Plas Princess hearse all the way from Holywell, North Wales, and members of the South Wales Classic Car Club for attending with their classic cars.

Henry would have been so proud.

Thank you to everyone who attended the funeral.

"Good Night, God Bless, Butch"

In Memory

KLEE
Karon

The fact that you are no longer here,
will always cause us pain, but you are forever
in our hearts, until we meet again.

Love Mum, Dad & Pauline

Birthday In Memory

VERNON
ROGER

21 June 1946 - 13 October 2015

Happy 70th Birthday

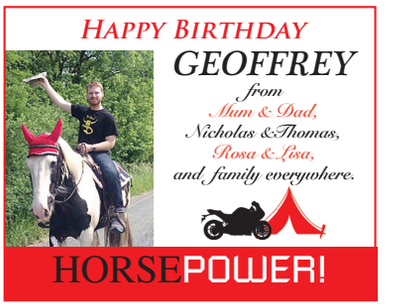
Miss you so much Rog
Love you forever Shirley (sis) xx

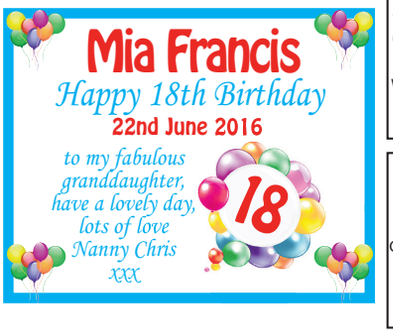
Thank You

A Big Thank You

To all the Barry Comprehensive School staff who contributed towards my lovely present and kind messages on my retirement.
Ilo x
(Cleaning Supervisor)

Birthdays





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The doctor who protected Barry from bubonic plague

LAURIE OWEN, a long-time resident of Barry, tells the story of the town's first GP – a man who battled to bring safety and sanitation to a rapidly growing community.

IN 1884, the small village of Barry would become a bustling town, with the arrival of thousands of navvies and tradesmen of all kinds, intent on building the Docks.

George Neale (1852-1917) was born in Mountsorrel, Leicestershire, and became the first General Practitioner in Barry. His father, Henry, was a manufacturing hosier, but very little is known about his childhood or his family.

Indeed, the first mention of George was in Porth at the Tynewydd Colliery disaster of 1877. He was studying medicine at London Hospital and it was necessary for students to serve their final five years as an 'apprentice', so it seems likely that his time was under Dr Henry Naunton Davies JP, LRCP (Lond), LSA and the colliery surgeon at the time.

In April 1877, four men and a boy were trapped for 10 days underground, and 10 doctors assisted the rescue party, with no small risk to their own safety.

George was one of those men and he was subsequently awarded a bronze medal for his contribution.

Five years later, he qualified LRCP (Edin) and LRCS (Edin) and by 1884, in the knowledge that the Docks in Barry were to be built, this young physician/surgeon realised that his skills would surely be needed.

Just two years later, he married Sarah Matthews, the daughter of a local farmer.

He was the first GP in Barry, with his surgery in Porthkerry Road in 1885, and the 1891 census showed his address as 'Mountsorrel'.

Living with him were Margaret Ockwell, a servant, and Charles Hockley, a groom/domestic, but his wife Sarah was possibly a visitor with Rebecca Mackell in Bedwellty. It is likely that he built this large house and named it after his place of birth and it was well-known by my generation, as we grew up in the 1940s and beyond.

Dr Neale would surely have been overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of people and the chaos in which they were living. The new arrivals naturally brought with them not only the health problems of the time but also the many accidents, caused by the building of the Docks and the hundreds of homes springing up all over town.

In 1888, the Local Government Board appointed Dr George Neale the first Medical Officer of Health (MOH), with a salary of £25 pa and a further £30 pa as Port Medical Officer. He would hold these positions for the next 26 years before retiring in 1915.

Dr David Williams of Park Road kindly gave me access to a comprehensive account, which his father, Dr J H Williams, had painstakingly researched, of the work carried out by Dr George Neale over the 30-year period he spent with us.

From his first report as MOH in 1889, Dr Neale expressed concern at the poor living conditions and the ignorance of the poorer inhabitants, and with a population already of 10,000, he urged the completion of a proper sewerage scheme and adequate water supply.

This same year the 'Notification of Infectious Diseases Act' came into force and a quarantine station for ships with disease on board was chosen, between the East Breakwater and Sully Island.

He also circulated instructions to every house about the precautions needed and the management and isolation of infected patients. Scarlet fever, measles and diarrhoea were prevalent and with an average of seven people per house, control was difficult.

After much urging, in 1891, the Doctor was able to erect a temporary wooden Infectious Diseases Hospital 'on shore adjacent to the eastern Docks' at a cost of £161.6 shillings, which could accommodate 10 sailors in three wards.

In 1897, when bubonic plague from Bombay was reported, Dr Neale visited the ships in quarantine on a daily basis until they were infection free. It should be remembered that the many different diseases which sailors from all over the world brought with them, were hazardous and challenging for doctors and nurses alike.

After many stressful times, progress was being made, albeit slowly, when in 1894, permission was given to borrow over £6,000 to build an Infectious Diseases Hospital on Colcot Road. Frustratingly, it did not open until 1902, when it was restricted to smallpox and typhoid fever in seamen only.

Even after the opening of the Smallpox Hospital on Weycock Road in 1906, it was another six years before patients from town were admitted.

In a further attempt at isolation, in 1896, the Marquis of Bute leased some land on Flat Holm to Cardiff Corporation for £50 pa, to build a Cholera Hospital and it was the only Victorian sanatorium on a British offshore island. It was closed in 1935 and left to decay, but thankfully the island has been restored and is now a local nature reserve.

In 1897, Guglielmo Marconi transmitted the first wireless signals over open sea, from Flat Holm to Lavernock, just four miles away.

While all this was going on, there was personal tragedy for Dr Neale, when his wife Sarah died at Mountsorrel in 1898.

His report in 1906 contained the chilling fact that infant death rate was as high as it had been 70 years ago and he suggested that girls should be taught 'domestic economy', which would finally be adopted seven years later, with 'housewifery' centres in Hannah Street and Gladstone Road schools.

As evidence of need, when local residents could finally be treated, records show that in 1913, there were 135 admissions to the hospital on Colcot Road and 268 the following year. Now aged 62 and after many years of devotion to his patients, with particular emphasis on the young, Dr Neale decided to resign as MOH and become the Superintendent of this hospital, before taking well-earned retirement the following year.

My own family would certainly have been treated by the doctor or one of his colleagues, but those of us who came after have also benefitted from the practices set in place by this early pioneer.

The doctor also had an eye for business affairs, when in 1889, a group of local men set up the 'Barry Dock Permanent Building Society' and he was elected its chairman. Other directors were prominent men such as PJ O'Donnell, the physician/Ssurgeon and JP, John C Meggitt, timber merchant, and JC Pardoe, the council surveyor.

Much as today, there was a shortage of housing leading to rents being very high, so the aim was to encourage men who were working to take on a mortgage and buy their own homes.

The following year, he was a director of the 'Barry Castle Building Company', which in its first year would build 43 houses, shops and villas, including around the Park Crescent area. Indeed, they were pleased to announce that they could pay a 4 per cent dividend after just one year of trading.

Dr Neale was already a Mason when in 1893, he was sworn in as a JP.

An interesting story in the Barry Dock News of 1896 told of a group of 'capitalists' buying the 'Barry Dock and District Steam Laundry', with the intention of running it in Barry and not in Cardiff. They felt that with new machinery, their expertise and many contacts, they could increase employment in the town.

Dr Neale was a director, along with others including James Howell and W Morgan of The Hayes. Many of these early figures would later be recognised for their contributions to the growth of Barry by having local streets named after them.

Sadly, just two years after retiring, Dr Neale died at his home, Mountsorrel, on September 5, 1917 and was buried in Porthkerry Churchyard alongside his wife Sarah who had died 19 years earlier.

He could not know that in the 1950s, Glamorgan County Council would honour both himself and his colleague, Dr Kent, by naming the former Infectious Diseases Hospital, the 'Neale and Kent'.

As befits a man of such stature, his story does not end with his death. In his will he left some family bequests and also to Porthkerry and Penmark Churches, but the residue of his estate was to be used to establish a Trust, with the proceeds to help the children of Barry.

The annual income was to "improve the physical conditions of such children (for example the provision of suitable clothes, boots and food or physical exercises) so that the children may grow up strong and healthy men and women".

Dr Kent was one of the trustees and they reported that in 1921, 782 pairs of clogs and 226 pairs of stockings were provided, with 193 meals and the following year 925 clogs and 603 stockings.

Until the arrival of the NHS in 1948, fees for children's treatment at the Prince of Wales Hospital were often paid for by the Trust, with 'maintenance fees' for children varying from £1.15 shillings to £2.2s per week.

Over the following years, children's needs changed and some funds were switched to educational projects and youth organisations. In 1970, the Trust held a meeting with several local welfare heads and after much discussion, it was decided that the supply of footwear should still be continued and focus should also be given to single-parent families with three or four young children.

Although childless, this man could not have been more caring for all the poor and ailing children of Barry and he set a standard for all doctors to follow.

In next week's GEM, Laurie Owen looks at the life of Dr Percy Wheeler Kent.

READER'S VIEWPOINT

'EU countries in it for what they can take out'

WE have heard many misleading comments and statements by both 'Remain' and 'Brexit', but more misleading by the Remain.

In 1973 when we became the eighth member, the EU accounted for 31 per cent of world economic output. Today the figure is just 17 per cent.

It underlines the shrinking role of the EU in the world economy and why so many immigrants are coming to the UK to work, and for our better conditions, and again why so many from outside the EU come here.

Many countries in the EU are members, not 'for what they can do to improve and strengthen the EU economically', but 'what they can take out financially and other means.'

Some 18-plus countries in the EU take more out, mainly from what the UK and Germany put in.

France continues to issue threats against us if we leave. Look deeper and ask yourselves why this is.

While everyone likes the Pound to be strong against other currencies, it means we cannot compete fairly with many countries, because of EU laws in the areas of rules for business and employment.

Barry Hoey,
Bridgend.

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Local artist explores 'Beauty Within' Barry

BARRY-BASED RL Clarkson will be showing a one-woman exhibition at The Room in the Park Gallery in Victoria Park, Barry from June 16.

Entitled 'Beauty Within', the work is inspired by Barry's landscape – both the coastal and the town's urban spaces.

RL Clarkson (Rebecca) studied BA (Hons) Ceramics and Painting at Wolverhampton University, followed by an MA in Ceramic Design from Staffordshire University.

Rebecca "...creates new artworks, using mixed media working with ceramics as her canvas. She works in multiples, with each individual piece standing alone or within the collection as a whole."

Rebecca Clarkson.

Rebecca said: "As an artist living and working in Barry, my new work 'Beauty Within' is highly influenced by the surroundings: the urban and suburban; the cliff tops and beaches."

Inspired by her time spent in and around the potteries of Staffordshire, Rebecca's work is always functional as well as being aesthetically beautiful.

Rebecca is a member of VOGA – the Vale of Glamorgan Artists – and has recently exhibited selected pieces of the collection at The Boundary Gallery in Cardiff Bay.

The exhibition – sponsored by Homemade Wales – takes place at The Room in the Park, Victoria Park, Barry and is open to the public from Thursday, June 16 until Thursday, June 30. Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am – 4pm, Sat 10am – 12pm; Sun closed. Admission is free and for more information, visit facebook.com/homemade wales

‘Hell cannot be much worse’

The Welsh at Mametz Wood

THE attack of the 38th (Welsh) Division on the German positions in Mametz Wood in July 1916, the second week of the Battle of the Somme, would cost it some 4,000 casualties. It also led to an attack on the honour of the division.

July this year sees the centenary of this famous Welsh battle. A special service of commemoration will be held on the ground that was fought over from July 7 to 11, 1916 and pupils and staff from St Cyres School in Penarth have been invited to take part in the day’s events by the Welsh Government.

The headteacher of St Cyres School, Dr Jonathan Hicks, has written extensively on the battle. Here he recounts the story of those dark days:

The 38th (Welsh) Division was formed in December 1914 under the leadership of Major-General Ivor Philipps. New battalions of the Welsh Regiment, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and the South Wales Borderers were recruited from the cities of Cardiff and Swansea, from the Rhondda, Caernarvon, Anglesey, Carmarthenshire and Gwent, as well as from London and north Wales.

These battalions eventually departed for France during the first week of December 1915. It was the start of active service that was to see the Division involved in some of the fiercest fighting on the Western Front.

Following the early fighting on the Somme, the British Army had pressed the German army back beyond the village of Mametz, and were facing them across the shallow valley to the south of Mametz Wood.

Mametz Wood was, and still is, the largest wood on the Somme, covering an area of over 200 acres.

The Germans were able to bring flanking fire to bear on any approach to the wood from Flatiron and Sabot Copses to the east. Further, the German second line was 300 yards beyond the northern edge of the wood and hence it could be reinforced easily. Among the German units facing the Welshmen was the Lehr Regiment of the Prussian Guard.

The attack was planned for 8.30am on the morning of July 7 and, even though the planned smokescreen did not appear, the 11th SWB and 16th Welsh rose to their task as soon as the artillery stopped and immediately came under fire from the German machine guns. Casualties mounted and the attack petered out some 250 yards short of the wood.

The attack had cost 400 casualties and Philipps was removed, command of the division passing to Major-General Watts who immediately set about organising another attack.

At 3.30am on July 10 the artillery barrage opened up and a little after 4am the attack began. The 16th RWF lost a measure of the cover offered by the artillery fire and subsequently the battalion lost heavily in the advance to the wood.

On the right, the 13th Welsh also came under fire from the German machine guns. They suffered heavy casualties and were beaten back on two occasions but finally they managed to get a foothold in the wood.

The 14th Welsh reached the wood more or less as the artillery barrage was lifting from the edge. On the left the 14th RWF attacked close behind the 16th RWF, and Brigadier Price-Davies committed the 15th and 13th RWF to the attack almost immediately.

On the right the 10th Welsh were added to the attack, making a total of seven out of eight battalions of the two brigades engaged in action.

The attack was a success with all the objectives being taken ahead of schedule, but it had not been without cost. In the seven battalions that went into battle five of the commanding officers had been killed or seriously wounded. Added to this was the loss of many of the junior officers, which resulted in the control of the thousands of men in the wood becoming increasingly difficult.

German reinforcements flooded in and this created havoc for a while among the attacking Welshmen, but by about 2.40pm the 10th SWB were able to get patrols out to the northern edge.

By 6.30pm that day the bulk of the wood was in the Welshmen’s hands. The day’s fighting ended there but it left the men tired and jumpy, and throughout the night

Dr Jonathan Hicks

there was much wild firing.

An attack was planned for 3pm on July 11, with the 16th Welsh, 17th RWF and 11th SWB taking the lead. At 2.45pm an artillery barrage was opened up but fell short and landed among the Welsh troops.

The 11th SWB reached the north-east corner of the wood by 5.40pm and there was fierce fighting throughout the rest of the day. The German reaction was to realise that to continue to defend the wood was fruitless, and orders were issued for their withdrawal. As dawn broke on July 12 the tired troops of the 38th (Welsh) Division were relieved.

The fighting for Mametz Wood was over. It had cost 4,000 casualties – about a third of the infantry strength, but the Division was to get little credit for the work. Another year was to pass before they were given the opportunity to show their worth, and at Pilckem Ridge, near Ypres, their honour was restored, but not before many more men had died.

The survivors left behind a number of moving accounts of their experiences over those days.

Emlyn Davies of 17th Royal Welsh Fusiliers described what he saw when he entered Mametz Wood. “Gory scenes met our gaze. Mangled corpses in khaki and field-grey; dismembered bodies, severed heads and limbs; lumps of torn flesh half way up tree trunks; a Welsh Fusilier reclining on a mound, a red trickle oozing from his bayonetted throat; a South Wales Borderer and a German locked in their deadliest embraces – they had simultaneously bayonetted each other. A German gunner with jaws blown off lay against his machine gun, hand still on its trigger.’

An unknown officer described the last moments of 2nd Lt Alan Sheriff Roberts, aged 20, from Chester. “We found under trees and bushes many a boy who had lost all hope of being found, and who had settled down in that desolate spot to die.

“In one corner, at the foot of a tree, we found Roberts. From his wounds I could see at once that we could do nothing for him. I got down, undid his collar, took off his cap and put my hand on his clear forehead. Feeling a touch, he opened his eyes, and recognising me smiled faintly, and murmured in a gentle voice, “Captain.” In a hopeless way I tried to do something for him, but he wanted nothing. He was in terrific pain but he looked so mysteriously calm. The precious breath was getting fainter and fainter whilst his face became brighter and brighter, developing at the last a clearness that was well-nigh unearthly.”

Signaller W Harold Bampfield of the 16th Welsh recalled: “While we were in the wood one German came out of the brushwood. I couldn’t understand why he didn’t shoot me. He put up his hands and said, ‘Don’t shoot, Taff.’ I said to him, ’You speak English.’ He said, ‘And Welsh.’ He asked me what part of Wales I was from. I told him from the Rhymney Valley, working underground in Bargoed. He said, ‘You must have seen me. I was working on top of the gantry, shoving the trams. They used to call me ‘Long Tom’. Just before the war broke out they recalled me to Germany to fight for the Fatherland.’ I handed him over where there were some more prisoners gathered in the wood. I often wonder did he get back to Germany because they were shelling pretty heavy.”

As the commemorations of the centenary of the battle this year will embrace the theme of reconciliation, it is as well to recall the suffering experienced by the German soldiers.

Gefreiter Erich Berndt of the the Lehr Infantry Regiment wrote: “During the night the shelling in the wood increased dramatically, destroying a dugout to our right. In addition to other comrades, my good friend Garde-Fusilier Friedrich Bierkamp met his end there. Offizierstellvertreter Jablonsky was buried for a short time. Extricated whole in body but disturbed in spirit, he was killed several days later.

“Next to hunger, thirst tormented us the most. There was no drinking water in Mametz Wood. In desperation, most resorted to scooping what lay in the bottom of craters. In order to filter out the worst of the dirt and filth we used our handkerchiefs. I was so tired I fell asleep standing against a tree.”

Harry Fellows was a lance corporal with the 12th Northumberland Fusiliers. He was one of a number of men charged with burying the dead inside Mametz Wood. The stench of the dead bodies was unbearable and took months to clear from his nostrils. Where a body had been blown apart by shellfire, the parts were placed in a grave using a shovel. It was reckoned that over 1,000 men were buried in this way on one day alone.

Harry Fellows never forgot this terrible experience and though he survived the war, when he died in 1987 it was his wish that his ashes be buried in Mametz Wood. On his headstone are inscribed the words: *‘Where once there was war now peace reigns supreme and birds sing again in Mametz.’*

In 1930, 14 years after the battle, Mrs Helen Wheadon of Arabella Street in Cardiff was notified that her son’s remains had been found and identified inside Mametz Wood. Private John Bryant Collins of the 15th Welsh had been reported missing on July 11. He was buried in Serre Road Cemetery and his mother at last knew exactly where her son lay.

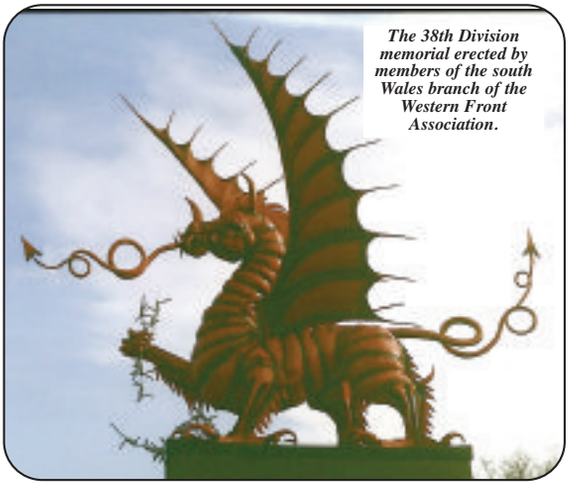
As the years pass, perhaps more men will come in from the cold as we continue to hear the voices from Mametz Wood.

Dr Jonathan Hicks is the author of The Welsh at Mametz Wood, Somme 1916 published by Y Lolfa.

ABOVE: Private Emlyn Davies.

LEFT: Mametz Wood, a vision of hell.

A German soldier.



The 38th Division memorial erected by members of the south Wales branch of the Western Front Association.

Conservative MP launches a survey over Island service

Left to right: Alun Cairns, Jill Woodward, Neil Woodward, and Andy Green.

VALE MP Alun Cairns, Welsh Secretary of State, has launched a survey of Barry Island rail passengers in response to continued terminations of the service from the Barry station to the Island.

He joined Andy Green of the Barry Ideas Bank, and Jill and Neil Woodward of the Island’s residents’ association to start the process of surveying rail users recently.

The survey is designed to measure the impact of the problem. Results so far show a deep frustration with frequent cancellations, a problem mentioned by every respondent.

Completed surveys also describe how rail service terminations at Barry station are causing Island residents to be late for work, incur taxi fares and miss appointments.

In the past year, 437 trains to Barry Island have terminated at Barry station or Cardiff Central station. This averages at eight times per week across the year.

The cancellations are primarily a result of decisions made by the rail operators, Arriva Trains Wales, and Network Rail to terminate and re-start the service at Barry to make up lost time and reduce delays along the line.

Arriva Trains Wales have explained to Alun Cairns that “decisions for terminating (Barry Island) services are initiated by our control to recover the service and restore the advertised timetable.”

The Vale MP however, worries about the impact of this policy on Island residents.

He said: “I have launched this survey so that the impact of the decisions to terminate Barry Island services at Barry station is appreciated.

“Many residents have told me how they have had to shell out for taxis or walk the causeway, often late at night and in wintry conditions. Many more have described how they have been late for work or missed appointments as a result.

“I will be taking this matter up with Arriva and using the findings of my survey to illustrate the case for terminating fewer trains to the Island. In the meantime, I encourage everyone affected by delays and cancellations to seek the available refunds and

Local bowls club round-up

'Outstanding performance in the Cowbridge Shield'

ANOTHER busy week for our ladies playing in three matches all at home.

On Monday June 6 in the two-rink evening league the visitors were a Cardiff team know as Cardiff G. Cowbridge were well beaten by a team comprising the most competitive and best players in Wales.

Rink scores: Lin Wallace, Dorothy Pritchard, Phyllis Price and Daine Lloyd, 16 - 20; Daine Purnell, Margaret Cooper, Lynda Wilson and Sue Flower, 7 - 25. Match score: Cowbridge 23 Cardiff G 45.

The following day in a Cowbridge Shield Competition, the ladies welcome Pencoed to our green and won on two of the three rinks.

There was an outstanding performance by Sylvia Hole's quartet of Sian Lewis, Diane Radley, Diane Lloyd and Sylvia winning by 21 shots to 5. Other rink scores: Corrie Bufton, Pat Davey, Joy Woolford and Dorothy Pritchard, 13 - 20; Lynda Wilson, Caryl Davies, May Jones and Pat Holdsworth, 19 - 13. Match score : Cowbridge 53 Pencoed 38

On Thursday Cowbridge picked up maximum points by winning on all 3 rinks in a league game against Murch from Dinas Powis.

Rink scores: Lynda Wilson, Margaret Cooper, Pat Holdsworth and Kay Edwards, 23 - 13; Diane Purnell, Sian Lewis, Phyllis Price and Shirley Willkinson, 16 - 11; Corrie Buffton, Diane Lloyd, Joy Woolford and Sue Flower, 23 - 10. Match score Cowbridge 62 - Murch 34.

The men played two games both away.

In the midweek Munro Cup game the opponents were Barry Athletic. It is always a pleasure to play on their good grass green and Cowbridge can be pleased with their performance by winning on two of the rinks. With five ends to play Cowbridge were ahead overall but Barry came back to force a draw.

Rink scores: Gerry Lloyd, John Collin, Tony Lewis and Alan Wallace, 28 - 11; Ron Frayling Bryan Hole Rob Lewis and Clive Pritchard, 18 - 17; Terry Dunsworth, Steve Dodsworth, Colin Wilson and Norman Wilkinson, 10 - 24. Mansel Davey, Byron Richards, Brain Kent and Roger Barwick, 11 - 15.

For their weekend league game, Cowbridge played Ynysangharad in Pontypridd and by winning on one of the three rinks gained two valuable points. It was a struggle to raise full team for this match and captain Clive Pritchard was grateful to those who were called up at the last minute and played their part.

Rink scores: Mansel Davey, Len Taylor Tony Lewis and Bob Penn 27 - 13; Gerry Lloyd, Ron Woolford, John Trott and Clive Pritchard 12 - 25; Bryan Hole, David Howell, Colin Wilson and Norman Wilkinson 9 - 25; Ron Frayling, John Collin, Brian Kent and Brian Williams,16 - 38. Match score :Cowbridge 64 - Ynysangharad 101.

The men play their first league game at home this Saturday to Gelligale a team that also has a carpet surface. Should be interesting. Spectators are welcome. We have plenty of seating around the green which is situated behind the Leisure Centre. The match will start at 2.30pm.

MB

Llantwit A bowlers go close at Aberkenfig

Llantwit Major 'A' travelled to Aberkenfig on Thursday, June 9, in the Rockwood Triples League on a green which had a similar surface to Llantwit's own.

Geoff Timms, Cen Williams and Mike Harmon had a very good win by five shots, scoring seven shots to five on the last five ends to win 21-16.

Ian Williamson, John O'Brien and John Nixon also had a win by just one shot, but as they conceded 10 shots and scored just two on the last six ends, the win could have been considerably more.

The experienced Charles Hiscock and John Crane, supported by the ever-improving Andy Vincent, were never in arrears and scoring three fives and a three, finished 22-13.

However, it was a different story for Ken Williams, Paul Brown and Eric Sparks. Having got off to a magnificent start with a seven shots to one in Llantwit's favour after just four ends, they proceeded to drop a six, two threes, a five and two fours to give Aberkenfig the advantage that Llantwit were unable to recover ending 11-33. Llantwit 70 - Aberkenfig 77.

In contrast to the excellent green on Thursday at Aberkenfig, Llantwit A Team visited Belle Vue Penarth, which must be one of the 'heaviest' greens in the Vale.

Belle Vue were two short and Keith Alexander and his rink of Ian Williamson, Andy Vincent and Dave Thomas, took full advantage by adapting very well to the difficult conditions, and ended the game winning by five and a quarter shots, 18 to 12.75.

John Nixon's four of Derek Lancaster, Paul Brown and Eric Sparks, adapted to the conditions and, staying the pace after being only 14–11 up on the 11th end, proceeded to score 14 shots with only one in reply on the next nine ends, finishing 31–15.

Graham Merchant's team of Cen Williams, Geoff Timms and Pat Twomey also played against a triple and fought hard and ended up losing by nine-and-a-half shots.

Cen Williams found the going difficult on the heavy green, losing 19.5 - 10, which was better than the remaining rink who lost heavily and if it had not been for new bowler John Moison, the score might have been even worse.

Scoring only two twos and a one, the rink of John Moison, Ken Williams, John Ball and Mike Harmon found the green far too heavy and found it almost impossible to reach the long ends which Belle Vue were playing, dropping an eight on the 10th end and four fours and a six, to make the final score 5–50.

The team score was Llantwit 64 Belle Vue 97

WJB

GOOD GALA RESULTS FOR BARRY BEAVERS

BARRY Beavers travelled to Fairwater Cwmbran on Saturday, June 11, with 19 swimmers and managed to come second overall, competing against seven other Welsh teams,

Gold medalists were: Abigail Finch, Callum Savory, Becky Mae Lawrence, Ffion Jones, Mark Eveleigh and Junior Relay; Jack Kemp, Tyler Savory, Ffion Jones, and Abigail Finch.

Silver medalists: Jack Kemp, Tyler Savory.

Bronze medalists: Andrew Sage, Louis Davies, Sarah Davies.

Team members who improved their times were:

Keira Richards, Faye Sage, Adam Lawrence, Suzanne Haslam, Philip Daly, Sophie Woodham, Heidi Boswell, Gareth Lloyd, Nick Cushen.

A big thank you to all the supporters who came with us, the team value your loyality and support. Also, thank you to Pencoed Coaches for its transport.

Barry Beavers will be practising ready for their next gala in September when we go to Ebbw Vale for the regional/national gala. Before the summer break in August, swimming finishes on July 30 and resumes on September 3.

NC

BRIDGEND BRIDGE CLUB LATEST RESULTS

THE results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

Wednesday, June 8: First, John Beard and Kevin Maddox; second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; third, Rob Forman and Alan Heath; Emer Disley and Debbie Lea; David Bowen and David Crompton.

The winners on handicap were John Beard and Kevin Maddox.

Thursday, June 9: First, Stuart Davies and John Henson; Second: Dennis Smith and Wendy Bailey; Third: Glyn Williams and David Newman.

The winners on handicap were Stuart Davies and John Henson

Friday, June 10: First: Tony and Emer Disley second: David Melville and Ian Grove; third, Simon and Debbie Richards.

The winners on handicap were Tony and Emer Disley.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to begin at 7pm, so it helps if players arrive at least ten minutes early.

On each Thursday afternoon at 2pm, also at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session. Master points are awarded, but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

TG

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

Hat trick for Vale horse

A SIX-YEAR-OLD mare called *Callymay*, owned and trained by Aberkenfig's Delyth Thomas, made it three wins in a row at the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival at Hereford racecourse.

A delighted Delyth, who has trained many winners at the Hereford, track said: "*Callymay* ran a blinder today. She loves racing, and I certainly never expected to be leading the Trainer's Championship."

Callymay was ridden by top Arabian horse rider Simon Walker, who is leading the Jockeys' Championship, a title he has won no fewer than nine times including last season.

Callymay and Simon Walker

Simon Walker and Delyth Thomas receive trophies from Amanda Smith.

Point-to-Point awards

THE annual South Wales and Monmouthshire Point-To-Point awards evening will be held at the Holiday Inn, Newport, Gwent, on June 18.

Winners: Champion rider men, John Mathias; Champion rider ladies, Charlotte Evans; Bill Jones Trophy, Bradley Gibbs; South Wales Novice Rider, Richard Patrick; Novice Riders, Conor Orr; Champion Mare, Keith Pritchard's *Watch The Birdie;* Champion Horse, David Llewellyn's *Rosies Peacock;* Champion Horse 12 years and over, David Llewellyn's *Rosies Peacock;* Best Hunter Chaser, Claire Sherriff's *My Corrana*; Best Llangeinor/Pentyrch horse, Steve Young's *Northgeorge*.

They're off!

***THEY'RE Off – The History of the Pembrokeshire Hunt Point-To-Point* by Anthony Williams will appeal to all hunt-racing enthusiasts.**

Winning Grand National jockey, Carl Llewellyn, who grew up in the Pembrokeshire area in his short foreword to this unique book, writes: "The history of the sport from the early days of racing to the present day makes fascinating reading and I wish the book every success."

Carl told me of his plans to turn professional at the 1985 Llangeinor Hunt Point-To-Point after winning the maiden race on a horse called *Yukon Tina*.

His brother, David, had earlier been successful in the adjacent hunts race on *Final Flirtation*.

The book is well illustrated throughout, and there is a picture of the Vale's Mr J W Tudor and family in the paddock after winning the intermediate race with *Musique en Tete*. There is also one of James Tudor scoring om *Sporting Hero* and another of Llancarfan's Evan Williams winning on the prolific *Timber Tool*.

There is also one of Cowbridge's John Llewellyn winning on Peter Bowen's *Gold Shot* at Pembrokeshire in 1991.

It is interesting to read the early reproduced press cuttings, but I was disappointed that none of my own from the Western Telegraph of the last 20 years or so was not used.

The book is dedicated to Colwyn Hooper, the 15-year-old rider who was killed when thrown from his horse at the Pembrokeshire Point-To-Point in 1952.

Back then, they were still riding over banks in the west Wales area and it wasn't until 1953 that: "Two races over fences were introduced into the Pembrokeshire Hunt Point-to-Point Steeplechase meeting at Scoveston last Thursday and this experiment was an unqualified success; in fact, they were the outstanding feature of the programme. Not only did the events produce fine fields, but by far the best racing of the afternoon and it is obvious that serious consideration will have to be given to the extension of this mode of racing."

One of the riders who rode over banks recalled in this book is the late Fred Mathias, grandfather of Welsh champion rider John Mathias. Fred, who wasn't that much older than me, would always greet me with the words, "How are you young man?"

A real character, Fred would be tremendously proud of his grandson, who is one of the best amateur riders to come out of Wales in years.

Another Grand National-winning jockey who had his last point-to-point ride at the Llangeinor Hunt Steeplechases was Hywel Davies, and he wrote: "I did ride on a number of occasions at Scoveston Fort, quite a few for Bert Lavis, and also some for Gillian Cuff, who lived quite locally to me near Cardigan, before following my brother Geraint (Taffy) into the National Hunt game."

They're Off *costs £10 plus postage, and can be obtained from Anthony Williams, Skerryback, Haverfordwest, SA62 3DN; telephone 01646 636598*.

Kristo is the county triple jump champ!

BARRY Comprehensive School student Kristo Ellis ended half term in fine style by becoming the under-15 county triple-jump champion with a jump of 11.13m.

Kristo, who is in year 9, has been selected to represent the county in the Combined Events Championships in Swansea on June 25, along with fellow students Dan Richards (year 10), Harry Carter (year 11) and Robert Boyt (year 12).

Congratulations on the team for being selected and good luck in the competition!

Kristo Ellis became the under 15 county triple-jump champion with a jump of 11.13m.

Sully Sports RFC holds dinner dance

SULLY Sports RFC held its presentation dinner-dance at the clubhouse last Friday, June 10.

Club chairman Richard Gully welcomed Coun Stuart Egan, the Vale mayor and club president, and Chris Mort of Contract Travel Services.

Richard thanked the club's main sponsors, Chris Mort and, in his absence, Gordon Hadfield of the Spinney and Island View Caravan and Holiday Parks, for their generous support over the last season.

Presentations made on the night celebrating the 2015/16 season were:

- Club tie (100 games) to Alex Szuchnik.
- Best new player to Tom Cotter.
- Most improved player to Dai Harris.
- Player of the Year to Alex Szuchnik.
- Players' Player of the Year to Pete Brown.

The club is happy to confirm that Chris Cummins and Barry Booker will again head the coaching team next season, and training will commence in the first week of July.

Reunion Nite

Friday, June 24, sees the next bi-monthly re-union of players/members. Each of the three re-unions held has seen an increase in numbers attending.

The many yarns, stories, memories and songs, have ensured a most enjoyable evening.

The reunion will be at the Sully Club, starting at 7:30pm. Although attended, in the main, by the club's old 'farts', any Sully Sports player/member will be most welcome.

MJS

Barratt celebrates Euro 2016 with new grassroots football sponsorship across south Wales

LEFT: Young players from Llantwit Major FC celebrate support from Barratt Homes.

BARRATT is celebrating Wales being part of Euro 2016 by sponsoring teams that are close to its new developments across south Wales.

Barratt sales director, Richard Lawson, said: "We want to celebrate Wales' participation in Euro 2016 and also show our support for the many young players starting out in the sport right across the south.

"It's important to us that we build lasting relationships with those living in the communities we are helping to create. Football plays a major role in the development of young people from all walks of life.

"Who knows, some of these youngsters may be looking forward to playing in future major championships somewhere down the line."

Mitch Gee, chairman of sponsorship recipient Llantwit Major Junior FC, said: "We would like to thank Barratt for its sponsorship of Llantwit Major Junior Football Club. This has helped us to keep fees for the children's parents really low, giving the opportunity for as many as possible to enjoy their football with us."

Big win for Millwood bowlers in Munro Cup

A 19-shot win for the Millwood side in this tie of the Munro Cup, though not quite sure if this will be enough to see any progression in the Cup.

After the fourth end had been played Millwood had taken a 5 shot lead at 22-17, but after some good bowling by the Central side, this had developed into a two-shot lead to Central after the ninth end 36 –38.

Millwood bowlers then knuckled down to the task in hand. After the 13th end the lead had swung to Millwood who then took a 12-shot advantage to lead by 57– 45.

This lead was too great a target for Central to try to claw back because after the final 18th end, Millwood had the 19 shot winning margin.

As the clubhouse welcomed all players after the game for the usual hospitality, and 'post mortem' as to how the game was played, everyone enjoyed the pleasure of a very sociable evening.

Thank you Central for your company, for another game to follow very shortly, this time a league 7 game.

Final score Millwood 83 Barry Central 64.

Travelling away to St Peters' for this Division Four game, the weather turned out to be a lovely day for a keenly contested game.

When the fifth end had been played, Millwood had managed to take a four-shot lead at 19 –15. What proceeded then put Millwood into a very welcome 17 shot advantage at the completion of the 10th end by the score of 45—28.

Had Millwood taken too much of a lead for St. Peters' to reduce the deficit? When the 15th end had been played, the score was now a lot closer with Millwood only leading by 51—41.

What would the last six ends turn out to be contested like? As luck would have it, the gap for St Peters' was just that little bit out of reach, for Millwood ran out the winners by a very slender margin of just 3 shots at the 21st end, and won by 72 shots to 69.

Talk about a close run game. Please, not too many of these during this season!

There was a lot of good play by Millwood on rink two at the beginning forming the basis of the win because after just 10 ends Brian Crockford's rink led by a very healthy 19 shots to 0. Well done lads.

Match result: Millwood 72. St Peters – 69.

Welcoming Cadoxton A for this Division 7 game. Millwood took a very early lead after the fifth end and were lying 25 shots to 20, but at the 10th end the gap had narrowed though still in favour of Millwood for them to be only 3 shots in the lead at 40 – 37.

It looked like a very close game could be on the cards over the last half of the game.

Millwood put a bit of pressure on Cadoxton A, for after the 15th end the game still stood in favour of the home side to be leading by 59 shots to 54.

How would the final ends pan out? As Millwood kept piling the shots in they managed to run out winners by an 11 shot winning margin 84 – 73. A good result was due to rink four who managed a 10-shot win margin.

Without that margin, a very different game might have been keenly contested. As with every game, a lot depends on good play, luck and what chances are taken or missed.

Thanks go to Cadoxton A for the contest, and the spirit in which all games of Bowls are played and enjoyed in.

Match result: Millwood 'A' 84 Cadoxton 'A' 73.

Weekend of mixed results for Vale Club cricketers

THERE were mixed results for Vale Cricket Club's sides last weekend.

The Firsts travelled to Machen and lost by 10 wickets while a hastily-assembled Second XI produced an outstanding performance in the reverse fixture in Corntown.

Asked to bat first, the Firsts got off to a good start after the early loss of Gareth Andrews. JJ Davies (47) played really well and in partnership with Mark Francis were going along at over five an over.

Francis' departure, however, started a middle order collapse which put the away side in trouble at 70 for 8.

Spirited hitting by Darren Upham (46), firstly in partnership with Max Collis and then Carl Brooks saw the score to 147, well under part on a fast scoring wicket and ground.

The Machen openers teed off from the start and raced away to the target in 20 overs, Jones 71 not out and Thomas 60 not out.

Back in Corntown, stand-in captain Mark Stephens oversaw a great 6-wicket victory. Fielding first, consistent bowling from Will Johnson (4-27), Gareth Kellen (2-13) and Owens (2-4) dismissed Machen for 136.

In reply, the skipper scored 56 not out and in accompaniment with Gethin Merry (39) saw the side home within 33 overs.

CARL BROOKS

Bowls club is host to 'home international' event for deaf teams

OVER the weekend of Friday, July 1, to Sunday, July 3, Millwood Bowls Club has the honour and privilege to be the first Welsh club to host the Deaf Bowls International Weekend, between teams representing Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The tournament is organised by the Welsh Deaf Bowls Association on behalf of the British Deaf Bowls Association and is played between mixed mens and ladies teams in a team format.

The teams will arrive on Friday afternoon and take part in a practice session

The official opening ceremony starts at 9.15am Saturday morning with a procession by all teams, led by the Welsh team.

The official opening will be performed by the Mayor of the Vale, Coun Stuart Egan. Then, the club presidents, Derek Gorringe and Mrs Mary Edmunds, will do the ceremonial 'roll off' to start the tournament.

The club cordially invites all members of the public to come and see teams in action and to show their support for all bowlers, particularly the Welsh team

Refreshments will be available all day in the clubhouse. We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

Brian Howcroft
Men's secretary.

Flint lands a winner

BRIDGEND'S John Flint had plenty to smile about at rainsoaked Chepstow last Friday when the judge ruled that his 10-year-old course winner *Urban Space*, ridden by Tim Clark, and a 6-1 chance, had beaten the bottom weighted *Prince Of Islay* by a neck in a photo-finish in the two miles Longcroft Handicap.

Maisy Missile

Maisy Missile, owned, bred and trained by Mrs Mary Evans, mother of Llancarfan racehorse trainer Evan Williams, landed the two-mile Blue Cross For Pets Handicap Chase at Newton Abbot last Friday.

Well ridden by Evan's stable jockey Paul Moloney, *Maisy Missile* at 14- years-old the oldest horse in the race won by seven lengths from *Ladies Dancing*.

A winner of two hurdle races and three chases, the bottom weighted *Maisy Missile* was winning for the first time since 2013 and was returned at odds of 9-1. Mrs Evans and her husband Bill Evans farm in Pembrokeshire.

Brian Lee

Cavaliers Seconds win with a number of overs to spare

by DAVE CHEAL

Scott Buckley of Llantwit Major Cavaliers Seconds, won the toss and elected to insert Morriston 2nd XI in the latest round of SWCA Division 6 matches, with the match balls sponsored by Roz Couzens Chiropodist.

Morriston got off to a good start with Dan Short (11) and Phil Evans (73) putting on 77, in 21 overs, for the first wicket, before losing two wickets in the 22nd over to an Ed Pickford (8-4-9-3) double wicket maiden.

Kelvin Thomas scored 36 and held the innings together, after the departure of Phil Evans, before Morriston were bowled out for 150 in the 38th over with Phil Harris (2 for 12) and a wicket each for Nick Harris, Fraser Prior and Kieran Davies with Ed and Dom Henson taking catches.

The Cavs reply contained a number of decent innings with opener Ed Pickford (35), Scott Buckley (22 not out), Kieran Davies (12) and 15 year old Dom Henson (11) all making useful contributions.

However the Cavs were indebted to 16-year-old Nick Harris (42) who hit a personal best, including nine 4s in an innings that would have given him plenty of confidence going forward.

The Cavs won the game in the 39th over with skipper Scott Buckley finishing the match with a six to take the Cavs to 155 for eight and claim 19 points from the game.

The wicket takers for Morriston were Jon Shefford, Kelvin Thomas, Dan Short and Nathan Benianous all with two each. An excellent win for the Cavs as they head into their next game at Dyffryn next week. The Cavs would like to thank Julie for doing the teas, Anthony Brown Estate Agents, Chiropodist Roz Couzens, Cooperative Travel, Llantwit Major Autocentre, Oxford Lawns and Gardens, Simons Plaice, Sinclair Direct and Wave Design to Print for their much appreciated sponsorship of the club.

Comprehensive win for the Blue Bulls

Bridgend Blue Bulls leapt to the top of the Welsh Conference after an exciting 44-22 win over West Wales Reserves in Llanelli.

The first half was fairly competitive and feisty but Bridgend went in with an 18-6 lead. Aaron Harries crossed for their first, converted by Joe Symons but it was soon 6-6 through a Iwan Mayze try with Taylor Phillips converting.

Bridgend though are not champions for nothing and they stepped on the gas just before the interval, with Owen Thomas and Jack Dryden running in scores with Symons improving both.

The game was out of reach within 10 minutes of the restart as Thomas scored his second and Dale Wood followed him over. Symons converting the first, Thomas the second and the score was 30-6.

Mayze's second try brought the score back to 30-10 but it was a brief respite as Bridgend scored three more times, Henry Marrar, Marcus Thomas and Wood with Symons converting once.

But Raiders reserves weren't finished yet, one from Trystan Morgan and Mayze completing his hat-trick with further goals from Phillips bringing some respectability to a West Wales side that contained a number of debutants.

Llantwit ladies beat the league leaders

ON Sunday the members of Llantwit travelled to play a mixed match against our old friends at Brecon.

An enjoyable time was had by all and the bowling was excellent.

On Monday, it was the ladies' turn. They travelled to Bridgend to play a social match, president versus vice president, with clubs represented from all over Glamorgan.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon's bowling, followed by high tea at the Heronston Hotel. Thank you to the Glamorgan Executive for a well-organised afternoon.

Tuesday saw us playing at home against Kenfig Hill and Pyle, in another round of the Cowbridge Shield.

Margaret Morgan's rink lost 14-16 in what was a close game. Helen's team could not hold back the excellent bowling of the Kenfig ladies, losing 7-21.

Dilys's team, however, gave no quarter to the Kenfig ladies, winning comfortably 22-7.

On Thursday, we welcomed Penarth ladies who are top of the league table so we expected a tough game, and it was.

All rinks were close, with Carol's rink even on the last end and managing to get the one point to win their game 12-11.

Marian's rink stayed with Penarth until the last few ends, unfortunately losing 13-17. Julie's team played well, winning 18-11.

Well done ladies, we gained eight much needed points, which hopefully will put us in a stronger position in the league table.

CW

Good win for Llantwit

LLANTWIT'S second league match on Saturday was against Beddau, who arrived three players short

This made three of the matches a disjointed affair. Despite this, Llantwit won on all rinks for a 101-41 victory.

Steve Booker's rink stormed ahead from the start and were 12 shots up after seven ends. A score of six by Beddau on the ninth end reduced Llantwit's lead to five. Llantwit raised their game after this, winning most of the remaining ends to win by 14 shots.

Charles Hiscock's rink took the lead after the third end and they held from then, with Beddau winning only nine ends out of 21. Llantwit won comfortably by 14 shots.

Graham Jones' rink could not get going at the start of the match and it took until the 13th end before they went ahead. After this they took command, taking the majority of the remaining ends to win by 15.

Neville Young's rink continued their good league form, taking the lead on the third end. Llantwit were only troubled by Beddau's lead, who bowled well with the extra advantage of bowling three bowls. Llantwit overcome this to win by 18 shots. **NY**

Cowbridge Darts season presentation evening

by Paul Tasker

ON Saturday evening, June 11 the 2015-2016 Cowbridge Darts League concluded with a successful finals and presentation night. The Six Bells Inn, Penmark, hosted the event this year, and they were the perfect hosts.

The evening started with the finals of the doubles competition. First up were the ladies.

Both pairs played excellent darts but the winners were Hilarie Coles and Joan Burt (Old Post Ladies), this season's Ladies Doubles champions who defeated Pam Adams and Maureen Fleming (Farmers Arms) 2-0.

Then it was the men's turn. Martin Thomas and Paul Butcher (Edmondes 'B') started off strongly, winning the first leg, but Paul Cates and Luke Woolf (Highwayman Inn), are this season's Men's Doubles champions, since they responded with some excellent darts to win 3-1.

Following a break to enjoy the excellent buffet it was the turn of the singles competition. Again, first up were the ladies. This was a very close, high scoring match with Mickey Wilcox (Old Post Ladies), becoming this season's Ladies Singles champion, narrowly defeating Joan Burt (Old Post Ladies) 2-1. Then attention switched to the men's singles final.

This time there was no stopping a very determined Paul Butcher (Edmondes 'B') who became this season's Men's Singles champion by winning 3-0 against Nigel Thomas (Farmers Arms).

The evening concluded with presentations to the teams of all the other 2015-2016 season awards.

League champions: the Edmondes B and the runners-up Highwayman Inn.

Great Western Cup champions: the Farmers B (H&H) and runners-up Edmondes 'A'.

The Fours champions: the Edmondes 'B' (Martin Thomas, David Thomas, David Cheal, Paul Butcher, Martin Gaffney, Jonathan Cheal) and runners-up the Edmondes 'C' (Mark Dowling, Steve Huish, Noyle Burt, Richie Williams, Marc Lassimer).

The Mixed Doubles champions: Maureen Fleming, Nigel Thomas and Rob Jones (Farmers Arms) and runners-up Pam Adams, Tony Fox and Owen Carter (Farmers Arms).

The Clive Blick Trophy champions were Sally McCaver, Rob McCaver and John Izzard (Farmers 'B' – H&H) and runners-up were Maureen Fleming, Nigel Thomas, Rob Jones and Owen Carter (Farmers Arms).

Captain's Cup champion: Steve Simmonite (Edmondes 'A') and runner-up Ryan Gratton (Six Bells Inn).

Of great importance are the individual awards. The 180 shield went to Ryan Gratton who hit three during the season, 180 medals going to Martin Thomas and Simon Reader who hit two during the season and also Paul Butcher, John Fleig, and Rhys Jury who hit one.

The Men's Highest Out Cup went to William Wetherall (Llanharry) with a 118 three-dart out. Ladies' Highest Out Shield went to Emma Hole (Old Post Ladies), the league's youngest player with a 90 three-dart out.

After a thrilling raffle draw, the teams then danced the evening out. We now take a summer break, but the darts will return at the beginning of September.

Anyone wishing to join a team, or start a team are strongly encouraged to get in touch by e-mail at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com; up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Men's Singles finalists Paul Butcher and Nigel Thomas.

Ladies Singles champion Mickey Wilcox.

Men's Doubles champions Paul Cates and Luke Woolf.

Ladies Doubles champions Hilarie Coles and Joan Burt.

Giles appointed new Dinas Powys football manager

DINAS POWYS FC are delighted to announce that Paul Giles has taken over as first team manager at the Murch club.

It will be Paul's second spell with Dinas after a successful first spell, which saw him take the club from Division Three to Division One of the Welsh League.

Paul's professional career saw him play for Cardiff City, Exeter, Plymouth, Excelsior Rotterdam and FC Dortrecht in Holland and finally Newport County.

Paul is a manager of vast experience who has also managed at Barry Town (leading them to the Welsh Premier title), Inter Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Dinas Powys, Grange Quins and more recently Rhoose, who he took from the South Wales Amateur League into the Welsh League.

Assisting Paul will be a management team of ex-Cardiff City player Tony Bird, ex-Sully manager Steve Hill and Dickie Batt, the former Barry Town and Merthyr player.

The committee at Dinas Powys would like to wish Paul and his team all the best for the forthcoming season. **RG**

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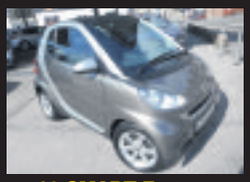

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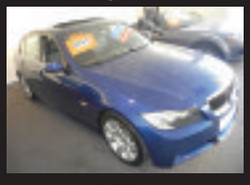

08 BMW 320D M-Sport Le Mans
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11 BMW X1 M-Sport 2.0 Diesel X Drive
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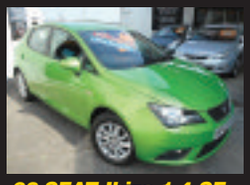

62 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 SE 5-Dr
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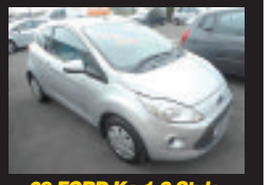

09 FORD Ka 1.2 Style
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£3,695

60 MINI Clubman Cooper 1.6 Diesel 5-Dr
In met blue/met silver, 40,000 miles, chilli pack
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11 FIAT 500 Twinair
In red, 28,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax, 'sporty looks'.
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11 RANGE ROVER Sport Autobiography 3.0 TDV6 Automatic. In black with full black/cream leather trim, 54,000 miles **£29,995**

12 MERCEDES S320 CDi BLUETEC Automatic In silver with black leather, 36,000 miles, Over £3000 of extras. On offer at **£23,995**

08 RANGE ROVER Sport 3.6 TDV8 Automatic. HST In met-grey, 86,000 miles, top of the range 4x4 ....**£17,495**

11 BMW X1 M-Sport 2.0 Diesel X Drive In sapphire black, 41,000 miles with heated leather etc....**£13,995**

09 BMW 335i M -Sport 4-Dr In black, with beige leather, 57,000 miles, Xenon etc....**£11,995**

13 RENAULT Grand Scenic D-Quettluxe NRG 1.6 Diesel 7 seater In ice blue with leather trim, 56,000 miles, top of the range **£10,995**

12 FORD Focus 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 'S' 5-Dr in met grey, 41,000 miles, fantastic mpg **£9,495**

15 HYUNDAI i20 Premium 1.2 5-Dr in met blue, diamond cut, alloys, bluetooth etc **£9,295**

12 PEUGEOT 508 Allure 2.0 Diesel In Iseo Blue, 47,000 miles with Bluetooth, heated seats etc..**£8,995**

12 MINI Cooper 1.6 In white silver with black roof, 23,000 miles. Very nice example **£8,995**

14 RENAULT Clio Dynamique MEDIA NAV ENERGY DCi 1.5 In Silver with Bluetooth, sat nav, alloys etc, free road test, only 39,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,695**

13 CITROEN DS3 Style 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback In white, 23,000 miles, alloys, cruise control etc **£8,495**

60 MINI Clubman Cooper 1.6 Diesel 5-Dr In met-blue/met-silver, 40,000 miles with chilli pack, pan-roof etc **£8,295**

62 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5-Dr In pulse Copper metalic, 6,000 miles, £30 road tax....**£7,995**

62 VW Polo 1.2 Match 5-Dr. In black, 26,000 miles with alloys, bluetooth etc. **£7,995**

61 FORD Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr. In silver, 45,000 miles, low running costs. **£7,995**

58 MERCEDES CLC 200 CDi Diesel Coupe Automatic In Silver, heated leather seats etc with only 53,000 miles **£7,995**

62 HYUNDAI IX20 Active CRDi 1.6 Diesel In White, only 23,000 miles with Bluetooth (stop start), alloys etc **£7,695**

12 RENAULT Megane GT Line Coupe 1.6 Turbo Diesel In met great with sat nav etc **£7,495**

60 MERCEDES B160 Blue Efficiency Sport MPV AMG. Alloys, Bluetooth, Half Leather Trim. **£7,495**

08 BMW 320D M-Sport Le Mans. In blue, suede trim, climate control saloon. **£7,495**

13 KIA Venga '2' Automatic 1.6 5-Dr In black, 37,000 miles, 1 owner, with parking sensors etc **£6,995**

63 SUZUKI Swift SZ3 DDis 5-Dr Diesel Hatchback In silver, alloys, bluetooth etc, 23,000 miles**£6,995**

62 FORD Fiesta Zetec 998cc 3-Dr In silver, free road tax, real value at **£6,995**

59 VW Golf Plus 1.4 TSi SE In silver, 50,000 miles, host of extras, superb example **£6,995**

59 MINI Cooper 1.6 Convertible In pure silver, 68,000 miles with over £2,500 of extras....**£6,995**

10 VOLVO C30 R-Design 2.0 Diesel In titanium grey, 68,000 miles, heated leather seats, Bluetooth, alloys **£6,795**

13 KIA Picanto '2' 1.0 5-Dr In white, 12,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax, bluetooth etc....**£6,495**

61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4SE Automatic In met blue, 37,000 miles **£6,495**

11 VAUXHALL Insignia 1.8 SRi In met grey, 52,000 miles with sat nav, alloys **£6,495**

11 SKODA Fabia 1.2 TSi SE Plus In silver, 35,000 miles, 1 owner with climate control **£5,995**

60 SEAT Leon 1.2 TSi 'S' 5-Dr In black, 43,000 miles. Good looking car **£5,995**

10 VAUXHALL Astra 1.4 SE Turbo 5-Dr In silver, 55,000 miles, nice example REDUCED TO **£5,995**

13 VOLKSWAGON UP 1.0 Black Edition 51,000 miles, high spec, low running costs **£5,995**

61 SKODA Fabia 1.2 TDi Greenlink 5-Dr In red, 50,000 miles, 1 owner, "Free road tax"....**£5,995**

60 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi TR 5-Dr In blue streak metallic, 12,100 miles from new **£5,995**

57 SUZUKI Jimny 1.3 In met-grey, 26,000 miles, 1 owner, 4-wheel drive....**£5,995**

62 SEAT Ibiza 1.4 SE 5-Dr In verde lime, 22,000 miles, 1 owner ..REDUCED BY £1000 TO **£5,995**

60 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5-Dr. In met blue, 42,000 miles, A/C, alloys etc. **£5,995**

11 FIAT 500 Twinair. In red, 28,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax, 'sporty looks' **£5,795**

64 SUZUKI Alto S23 5-Dr In white, 10,000 miles, 1 owner, free road tax **£5,495**

11 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi T-Spirit 5-Dr In met-grey, 63,000 miles, high spec **£5,495**

10 RENAULT Twingo 1.6 Gordini Sports In malte blue, 33,000 miles with leather etc....**£5,495**

59 VW Polo 1.2 Hatch 5-Dr. In silver, 11,000 miles from new, 1 owner, superb condition....**£5,495**

59 FORD FIESTA 1.2 Zetec 5-Dr In met-blue, 54,000 miles with a/c, alloys, etc ....REDUCED TO **£4,995**

59 HONDA Jazz 1.4 V-Tec Ex In electric blue, with panoramic roof .... REDUCED TO **£4,995**

11 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr In black, 66,000 miles, with alloys, a/c etc **£4,995**

09 SEAT Leon 1.6 Emocion 5-Dr In silver, 29,000 miles, very nice example at **£4,995**

11 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Edge 3-Dr In met-silver, 54,000 miles, low insurance **£4,695**

60 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique TOM-TOM 5-Dr In black, only 26,000 miles with sat-nav....**£4,695**

10 HYUNDAI i10 Comfort 1.2 5-Dr In silver, only 11,000 miles, low running costs **£4,495**

09 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Style+ 5-Dr Automatic In met blue, 61,000 miles....**£4,495**

56 HONDA Civic 1.8 ES 5-Dr In electric blue, 52,000 miles with pan-roof **£4,495**

61 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-Dr In silver, 64,000 miles with sat-nav, alloys etc **£4,295**

60 FORD Ka 1.2 Zetec In violet metalic, low miles, 1 owner, £30 road tax....**£3,995**

11 TOYOTA Aygo 'Blue' 1.0 5-Dr 54,000 miles, £20 road tax, low insurance ....REDUCED TO **£3,995**

10 SMART Fortwo Pulse MHD Auto In bronze, metallic, 46,000 miles, 1 owner **£3,995**

59 SKODA Fabia 1.2 HTP 5-Dr In red, very nice example with only 19,000 miles **£3,995**

59 SMART Fortwo Passion Auto In red/silver, 21,000 miles, glass roof etc.... ....REDUCED BY £300 TO **£3,995**

09 PEUGEOT 308 XL 1.6 Diesel 5-Dr In met-grey, 76,000 miles, low running costs **£3,995**

58 SKODA Fabia 2 HTP 1.2 5-Dr. Met Grey, 50,000 miles, nice example **£3,795**

11 SUZUKI Alto SZ3 1.0 5-Dr In red, 47,000 miles, low running costs, plus £20 road tax **£3,695**

09 FORD Ka 1.2 Style (New Shape) In silver, 51,000 miles, £30 road tax **£3,695**

07 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 Zinc 5-Dr Auto In met-silver, 65,000 miles **£3,695**

57 RENAULT Clio 2.0 Dynamique S In black, 63,000 miles with pan-roof, keyless-go etc **£3,295**

58 FIAT Grand Punto 1.4 Dynamic 3-Dr In met-blue, 63,000 miles, low running costs **£2,995**

06 VOLVO S40 1.6S In silver, 70,000 miles, very nice family saloon at **£2,995**

57 FORD Fiesta Style Climate 1.2 3-Dr In tango red, only 51,000 miles, alloys, Ipod connector ..**£2,795**

07 VOLKSWAGON Urban Fox 1.2 In red, 59,000 miles, low insurance **£2,695**

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BLAST FROM THE PAST – 1993

BY BRIAN LEE

THIS week, GEM columnist Brian Lee, who this year is celebrating 50 years of reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene, takes a look at a piece he wrote for The GEM and which appeared on April 29, 1993.

'Unlike the Aintree Grand National, the 12 runners in the Welsh point-to-point Grand National over four miles at the Pentyrch steeplechases at Llantwit Major got off to a good start. Most of the early running was made by Tim Jones' mount *Pat Steel,* but the 1990 winner – 11-year-old *Shuttlecock Star* – drew clear after jumping the 19th of the 25 fences to win easily by 25 lengths from 13-year-old *Majestic Buck*.

Shuttlecock Star, who was winning for the third time this season, was ridden by Newport's Andrew Price. The local hope, *St Helen's Boy*, who had won last year's race, trailed in fifth and last place.

Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn landed a double with *Chibougama* (maiden division two) and *Duke of Impney* (maiden division three) to bring his career total of wins to an incredible 261. Only two other riders in the history of the sport have ridden more winners than Llewellyn who is surely a candidate for the Welsh Sportsperson Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately, point-to-point racing which produced the famed Anthony and Rees brothers, Fulke Walwyn, Hywel Davies and Carl Llewellyn, does not get a look-in in the rugby and soccer-orientated press.

(NB I still feel strongly about this after all these years of promoting a sport very close to my heart. The only time one hears from sports editors is when an injured rider is on a life support machine.)

Llewellyn has ridden 18 winners over the Moorlands course, which is two more wins than any other rider.

David Stephens had the restricted race all sewn up on his father's *Belhelvie*, who made nearly all the running, but unfortunately his weight cloth came off just 10 yards from the winning post. The race was awarded to Jon Parry Keen's mount *Origami* who would have been a well-beaten 20 lengths second.

Stephens had quick consolation when winning the first division of the split maiden on eight-year-old *Polly Pringle,* who had eight lengths to spare over *Bachelor's Pet* at the finish. *Lexden* was an impressive winner of the third division under David Jones who was standing in for Robert Rowsell, then suffering from concussion after falling from *Tanegrus* in the restricted open.

Earlier in the day, Robert had won the members' race on his father's *Castle Farm*. Joe Price made it four wins in a row on nine-year-old *Taureen Tycoon* who took up the running approaching the second last to win the confined by 15 lengths from *Chief Ironside*.

There was a good class field for the ladies' open which was won by Candy Thomas on *Up The Ladder*.

Llangeinor's new course

The Llangeinor point-to-point steeplechases are being held for the first time at Caegawr Farm, Margam, Bridgend, on Saturday, May 1, and racegoers have a special treat in store for them. For the country's leading point-to-pointer, the grey *Brunico* who is known as The Desert Orchid of Wales (it was me who gave him that name!) is an intended runner for the men's open race.

Brunico, who last week won the classic Lady Dudley Cup at the Worcestershire meeting for the second year running, is a quirky character and a former top class flat and hurdles performer who has captured the hearts of thousands of enthusiasts with his brave performances on all types of going.

He has chalked-up 22 wins between the flags and has raced all over the country from his Pembrokeshire stable.

Trained by Peter Bowen and ridden by Ron Treloggen, *Brunico* – with seven wins this season – is on target to retain The Daily Telegraph Champion Horse Trophy.

Another leading point-to-pointer is the local mare *Daisy Miller* who beat *Brunico* when he ran out on one occasion earlier in the season and ran a close second on another.

If David Brace's *Lucky Ole Son* lines up for the members' race, the tip should be taken. An exciting day's racing is promised.'

You can e-mail your stories or pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone him on 02920736438.

Wenvoe hosts Welsh team championship

THIS year's Welsh Ladies Team Championship will be held at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club – the first time the club has hosted the event.

GUW Chairman Val Franklin said: "We are delighted to be able to bring this event to Wenvoe Castle.

"The ladies Team Championship is one of the highlights of the GUW calendar and is eagerly anticipated by many clubs from across Wales."

While defending champions Newport will undoubtedly be among the favourites to do well once again, they will not have things all their own way.

Royal St David's, a regular side in the closing stages of the championship and last year's runners-up, will bring a strong team. Last year's losing semi-finalists Creigiau and Wrexham are also represented and feature in the same side of the draw as Newport and Royal St David's.

In the other half of the draw, Southerndown, winners for three years in a row in 2012, 2013 and 2014 will be looking to improve on their quarter final position from last year but face an intriguing first round match against a strong St Pierre.

Other first round matches include the local derby between The Glamorganshire and Dinas Powys, while host club Wenvoe Castle have drawn nearby St Mary's for their first game.

Wenvoe Castle Secretary Nicola Sims said: "As a regular supporter and past winner of the Ladies Team Championship, we are delighted to be hosting this year's event.

"We look forward to welcoming all of the players and their supporters to our club. The course is in great condition and I am sure will be thoroughly enjoyed by all of the teams."

The four day event starts on Thursday, June 16, with the final taking place in the morning of Sunday, June 19.

Visitors are welcome to come and watch this year's finals of one of Wales' longest established golf tournaments.

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'Thank God for football'

says local Methodist minister

CALLING all football fans! Rev Peter Taylor (local Methodist minister) is to lead an event titled 'Thank God for Football'.

This will be a relaxed event which seeks to celebrate this summer of football and remember some of its Christian church origins in the UK.

'Thank God for Football' takes place on Friday, June 17 from 7pm – the day after the Wales versus England Euro 2016 match.

The event will be held at Barry Town United Social club, on Barry Road.

All in the local community and local churches who love football and sport are welcome and it is suitable for teens and adults.

A free event, it includes a quiz, sports-related songs, and a look at a documentary that explores 'the beautiful game'.

There will be a short talk about football and faith and refreshments will be available to purchase.

For more information, contact Rev Peter Taylor on 406262; email revpete@live.co.uk or see the Facebook page, Vale of Glamorgan Methodist Circuit.

Cowbridge girl flies out to South Africa with under-21s

FORMER Cowbridge Comprehensive pupil Lydia Hitchings has been selected to represent Wales Under-21s in a three test series against South Africa.

The 19-year-old goal shoot, who plays for the Junior Celtic Dragons and Wales Under-21s hopes to add to her Under-17s caps and her debut cap against Northern Ireland, at Netball Europe in Aberdeen last year.

She said: "I'm really looking forward to travelling to South Africa. We have been training very hard with the senior squad and I have been really focused on my shooting.

"We can't wait to get on court and we know they are going to be really physical, so we're ready for the challenge"

The under-21 squad accompanied the senior Welsh netball squad, who flew out to Durban on Sunday, June 12, and both teams will compete in the six match (three test) Spar Challenge series from June 17 to 19 at the Durban Ice Arena.

Head coach Trish Wilcox said: "This is an opportunity for us to measure ourselves against one of the top five teams in the world."

This is Wales' first visit to South Africa, but the senior squads have met 11 times before, whilst the under-21s have played against each other five times

The under-21 Wales team will take advantage of the opportunity to prepare for their Netball Europe tournament in October 2016.

Lydia Hitchings

Megan (13) celebrates hole-in-one at Cottrell Park

Megan Cullinane celebrating her hole-in-one.

THE juniors at Cottrell Park Golf Club have made a great start to the golf year, at the club's 20th golf day.

This was celebrated by junior Jordan Standing, winning with 43 points.

The juniors had their monthly medal on June 5, and what a game it was. Megan Cullinane managed a hole in one on the ninth hole on the Button. She understandably was over the moon but said that it was not her best shot, and only realised that it was a hole-in-one when her other team mates started cheering.

The match was the day before her 13th birthday, so it was a fantastic way to celebrate, as she will also receive a Hugo Boss watch from golf site 'How Did I Do'.

In the very same competition, Iestyn James parred the course which is 72. There were smiles all around even if Megan's father Mike had to buy a lot of drinks for everyone, which is a golf tradition.

The juniors run a variety of competitions for all abilities from fun competitions to league and medal competitions. Newly appointed junior organiser Mike Cullinane stated that it's important to include all children of all abilities, regardless of handicap.

Coaching is run on various days, from development to course-ready juniors, run by golf pro Gareth Bennett. Should you be interested in your children giving it a go call 01446 781781 for more information.

Penarth Belle Vue Bowling Club opens 2016 season

PENARTH Belle Vue Bowling club played its first league game of the season on June 4, with two rinks winning and two going down.

Rink one lead was Richard Fitzjohn, No 2 Dave Smith, No 3 Dave Miller and Captain Malcolm Thomas was skip; they had a good win, 26 – 12.

Rink two lost 27 – 13. Lead was Paul Booth, No 2 John Whitfield, No 3 Barrie Bagwell; skip was Purser.

Rink three lead was Frank Keen; No 2 Graham Duggan, No 3 Colin Scammell and skip was Paul Paterson; they went down 34 – 13.

Rink four was our other winning rink, 23 – 16. Lead was Rowland Fletcher, No 2 Richard Brant, No 3 Len Fowler and skip Trevor Ford.

The game was played in a very friendly way. Everybody enjoyed the light-hearted banter and Roath Park's teas were excellent.

Thank you, Roath Park Bowling Club.

FRANK KEEN

Penarth Bowling Club news

ON a lovely summer evening at Penarth, Belle Vue played The Murch Bowling Club in the Munro Cup on Wednesday, June 8.

In a very even game, Belle Vue lost by two shots 52-54. Two winning rinks each, but the main points went to The Murch (10 points) and 4 points to Belle Vue.

Rink one won 17-10; lead was captain Frank Keen, No 2 Gordon Ford, No 3 Paul Paterson and new skip Barrie Bagwell.

Rink two won 22-8; lead was Colin Scammell, No2 was Paul Booth, No 3 Alan Thomas and skip was Len Fowler.

Rink three lost 7-29; lead was Dave Smith, No 2 was Dave Rappitt, No 3 Graham Duggan and skip Dave Miller.

Rink four lost 16-17; lead Rowland Fletcher, No 2 Richard Brant, No 3 John Whitfield and skip Trevor Ford.

A big thank you to Malcolm Thomas for providing the food, to Paul Booth and Barrie Bagwell for looking after the drinks and to Gordon Ford for his washing-up skills.

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FLYING THE FLAG FOR WALES!

New-look All Blacks find Gatland's braves are no push-over

Wales' tourists magnificent in defeat

BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

AS the TV cameras cut to the All Blacks' dressing room at half time in the first test against Wales at Eden Park, Auckland, head coach Steve Hansen could be glimpsed laying down the law to the world champions, who had been shocked by a blistering 40-minute display by the fired-up tourists in red, and were trailing 15-18 at the change-over.

In the melting pot was a record first Welsh victory in New Zealand and the ending of a dismal run of 26 defeats since 1963. Incredibly, the young Queen Elizabeth was just ascending her throne in 1953 when the Dragon last singed the Kiwi's feathers - that peerless 'prince of centres' Bleddyn Williams leading Wales to a famous 13-8 victory at the old National Stadium - and doubling the feat with his Cardiff club.

To put it all in overall context, the 30-match playing history between the two nations stretching way back to the first one contentiously edged by Wales in 1905, had read: New Zealand 27 - Wales 3: Total points scored, New Zealand 916 - Wales 202

Whatever the blunt-speaking Hansen said at half time had the desired effect, but it would take his newly-re-built side right up to the final quarter of a breathless, non-stop encounter to wrest the lead and overcome heroic Welsh resistance; though the final score - 37-21 - did scant justice to a spirited effort that for over an hour had dangled the heady prospect of a shock result that would have reverberated around the rugby world.

As Wales' head coach, Warren Gatland, said proudly afterwards: "We were brilliant for 60 minutes", though he candidly admitted "the players were blowing a bit" in the final stages against relentless opponents who were "used to playing at a much higher level"

Pre-match talk among pundits and social media had been of All Blacks in transition, following the retirement of several world renowned names, but it was surely fanciful to suggest New Zealand were "vulnerable"?

As Hansen himself pointed out, the new line-up were experienced players in their own right and fully in tune with the All Black ethos, despite the six changes made - a view seemingly vindicated when his team almost immediately went into the lead from the opening whistle, after the tourists were penalised.

Minutes later, however, Wales displayed a spirit of adventure that has been absent for far too long and launched a swift-moving handling attack that saw outstanding No 8, Taulupe Faletau, round it off in the corner for a try, converted by outside half Dan Biggar, who also landed two penalties as the All Blacks were forced into uncharacteristic handling errors and infringements

However, they had hit back with two first half tries, one unconverted, to make the score 15-11, only for scrum-half Rhys Webb to complete a scintillating first half for Wales with a typical touchdown, easily converted by Biggar, to restore his side's lead to 18-15. at the interval.

Six minutes after the interval, Webb made a try-saving tackle but the All Blacks drew level (18-18) with a penalty smack in front of the posts, and despite another successful penalty by Biggar, the hosts turned the screw as the game entered the final quarter, running in three tries (the last, heartbreakingly, with 82 minutes on the clock). Earlier both sides had had a try disallowed by the English referee Wayne Barnes.

The result was a flattering but in the end deserved 39-21 win for the world champs, who, nevertheless, knew they had been given a tough test by a Wales team aiming to bury memories of the Twickenham collapse, and it sets the scene for another exciting second test in Wellington on Saturday

Robson Kanu sends Wales into dreamland and next up are the English in Lens!

by Gareth Jamieson, the GEM's man in Bordeaux!

THE first game of any tournament is a tricky one – you want to set out your stall, show what you're capable of and make a winning start, but are more than aware that to start the tournament with a defeat can put you on the back foot.

With Wales, add in the pressure of a nation priming itself to make up for 58 years of defeat and disaster – not that this squad would allow themselves to be distracted by the emotion of the occasion, as they have shown in the last 12 months – and the game against Slovakia in Bordeaux on Saturday took on even greater significance than usual.

With a stadium seemingly spilling over with Welsh fans, red overpowering the white of Slovakia, Chris Coleman's men took to the field knowing that having already achieved the goal of qualifying for a major tournament, the next step was to show that they belong on the European stage.

In a game that ebbed and flowed throughout, it seemed that the large Welsh contingent in the Stade de Bordeaux (and the thousands watching in fan zones both in Bordeaux and Cardiff) were going to have to settle for a draw, Gareth Bale's wonderful free kick being cancelled out by Ondrej Duda's effort – but cometh the hour, cometh the man.

Hal Robson Kanu, who proved throughout qualifying he was pivotal to Wales' attacking game with his ability to create space for the likes of Bale and Ramsey, ran on to a pass by the latter and his scuffed finish rolled into the corner of the net, sending the fans wild and creating another slice of history for this group of players, the first British team in the history of the tournament to win their opening game.

The result became even more important later that evening as England were stunned by a late equaliser in their game with Russia, leaving Coleman's team sitting top of the pile in Group B ahead of their game with Roy Hodgson's men this afternoon (Thursday).

For a game that was already in the spotlight given the derby nature of it, even more significance will now be placed on the end result – a win for Wales would almost certainly ensure qualification for the next stage (and severely dent England's ambitions). A draw will leave both sides' fate in their own hands, while an England victory would leave the group looking open going into the final round of matches.

As soon as the final whistle blew on Russia-England, the mind games began, Gareth Bale questioning England's pride and passion and stating that they "big themselves up before they've done anything", accusations that were defended with more than a little annoyance by both Roy Hodgson and Wayne Rooney, Hodgson labelling the comments "disrespectful".

The ever-controversial Jack Wilshere then claimed that England had the better players and better team, only for ITV pundit Craig Bellamy to suggest that Wales had a better team unity and, more importantly, the best player out of the two teams in Gareth Bale, rubbishing Wilshere's comments – all good banter, but proof, if any were needed, how high the stakes are in Lens later today.

Arguably the pressure lays squarely on England – anything other than a win will put their participation in the tournament past the group stages in serious risk (not including the behaviour of their fans, the unsavoury events in Marseille casting a dark pall over the tournament).

England chasing the game will suit Wales' game plan perfectly, playing tight and allowing Bale to use his pace on the counter-attack to run at the creaking English defence.

Avoiding defeat will be the most important thing, but Wales will definitely feel that if they play further up the pitch than they did on Saturday they can take the game to England.

Should Robson Kanu start the game then Wales will have no problems doing that – his presence will occupy the English defence allowing Bale to attack from deep, something that helped Wales beat Slovakia; up to the point of Robson Kanu's introduction (and the thankfully fully-fit Joe Ledley), Wales were being pushed further and further back by Slovakia, and Bale leading the line (being supported by the phenomenal Jonny Williams) meant Wales weren't getting forward in enough numbers to test the Slovaks.

Play further up the field today and Wales should feel more confident and assured of getting a positive result against our neighbours. It's fascinatingly poised and a nervy and exciting afternoon is in store for supporters of both countries – can Wales add England to their list of scalps? Don't bet against them...

Photograph by Gareth Jamieson.

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